

SOLDIER-BLACK HAWK  
WAR

DRAWER 4 VOCATIONS

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A faint, light-colored watermark of the Lincoln Memorial is visible in the background of the page. The memorial's iconic columns and the top of the Lincoln statue are discernible.

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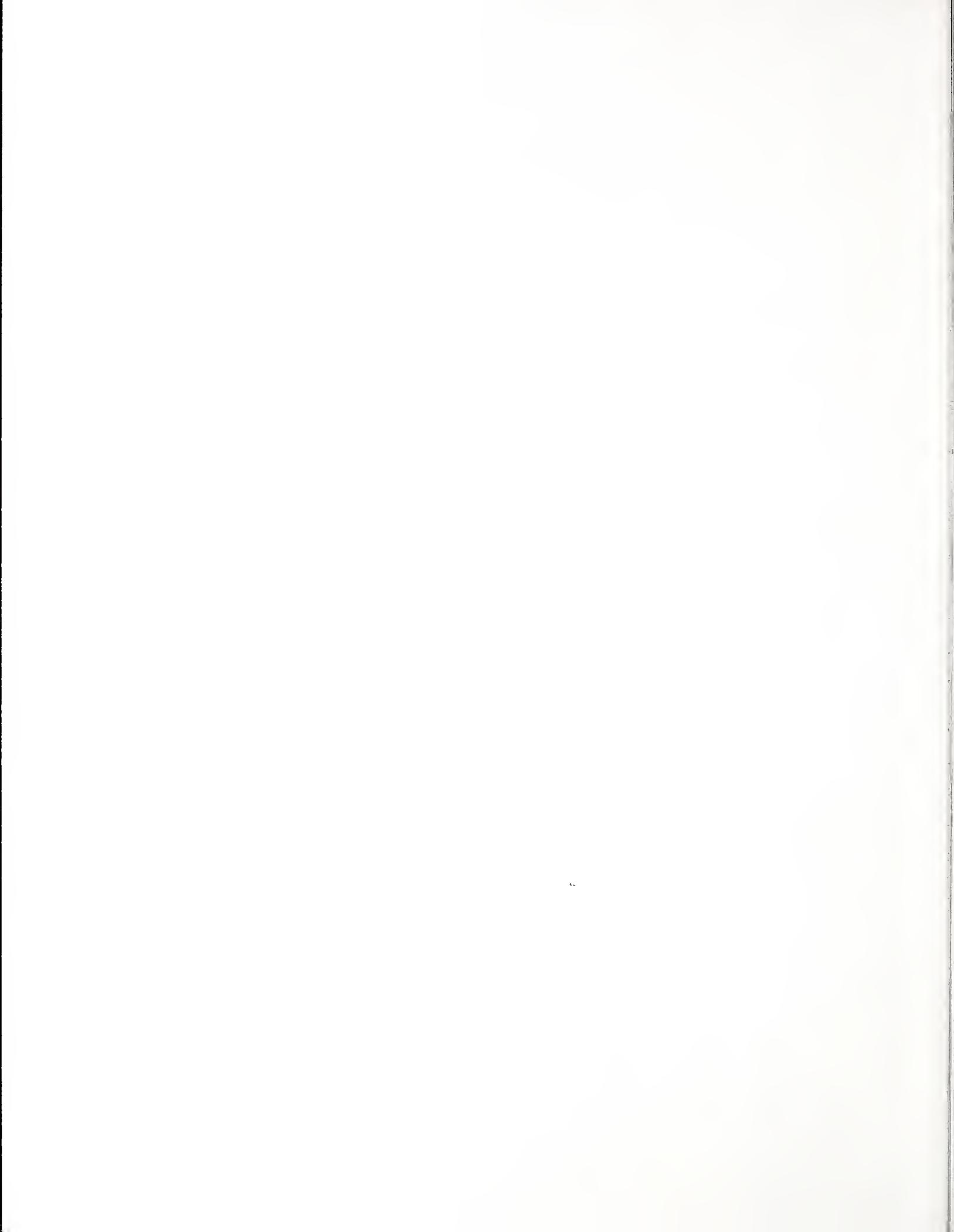
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# Abraham Lincoln's Vocations

Soldier

Excerpts from newspapers and other  
sources

From the files of the  
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#### HE LIKED THE TITLE OF CAPTAIN

When the Blackhawk War broke out, Lincoln was one of the first to respond to Governor Reynolds' call for a thousand mounted volunteers to assist the United States troops in driving Blackhawk back across the Mississippi. Lincoln enlisted in the company from Sangamon county and was elected captain. He often remarked that this gave him greater pleasure than anything that had happened in his life up to this time. He had, however, no opportunities in this war to perform any distinguished service.

Upon his return from the Blackhawk War, in which, as he said afterward in a humorous speech, when in Congress, that the "fought, bled and came away," he was an unsuccessful candidate for the Legislature. This was the only time in his life, as he himself has said, that he was ever beaten by the people. Although defeated, in his own town of New Salem he received all of the two hundred and eight votes cast except three.

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#### Lincoln as a Military Hero.

He never took his campaigning seriously. The politician's habit of glorifying the petty incidents of a candidate's life always seemed absurd to him, and in his speech, made in 1848, ridiculing the effort on the part of General Cass's friends to draw some political advantage from that gentleman's respectable but obscure service on the frontier in the war with Great Britain, he stopped any future eulogist from painting his own military achievements in too lively colors. "Did you know, Mr. Speaker," he said, "I am a military hero?"

In the days of the Black Hawk war I fought, bled and came away. I was not at Stillman's defeat, but I was about as near it is General Cass was to Hull's surrender; and like him, I saw the very place seen afterwards. It is quite certain I did not break my sword for I had none to break, but I bent my musket badly on one occasion. If General Cass went in advance of me picking whortle berries, I guess I surpassed him in charges on the wild onions: If he saw any live fighting Indians it was more than I did, but I had a good many bloody struggles with mosquitoes; and although I never fainted from loss of blood, I can truly say I was often very hungry. Mr. Speaker, if ever I should conclude to doff whatever our democratic friends may suppose there is of black cockade Federalism about me, and there upon they shall take me up as their candidate for the Presidency I protest that they shall not make fun of me, as they have of General Cass, by attempting to write me into a military hero."—December 1886.

A Queer Story of Lincoln.  
Mattoon, Ill., Correspondence Cincinnati Enquirer, August 3, 1886.

George B. Black, who lives in the southern part of this county, near the old Lincoln homestead, was a great admirer of the first martyred president. He has made it a hobby to pick up all stories concerning Abraham Lincoln, and tells the following, which he has received from Rev. Dr. Harsha of Omaha:

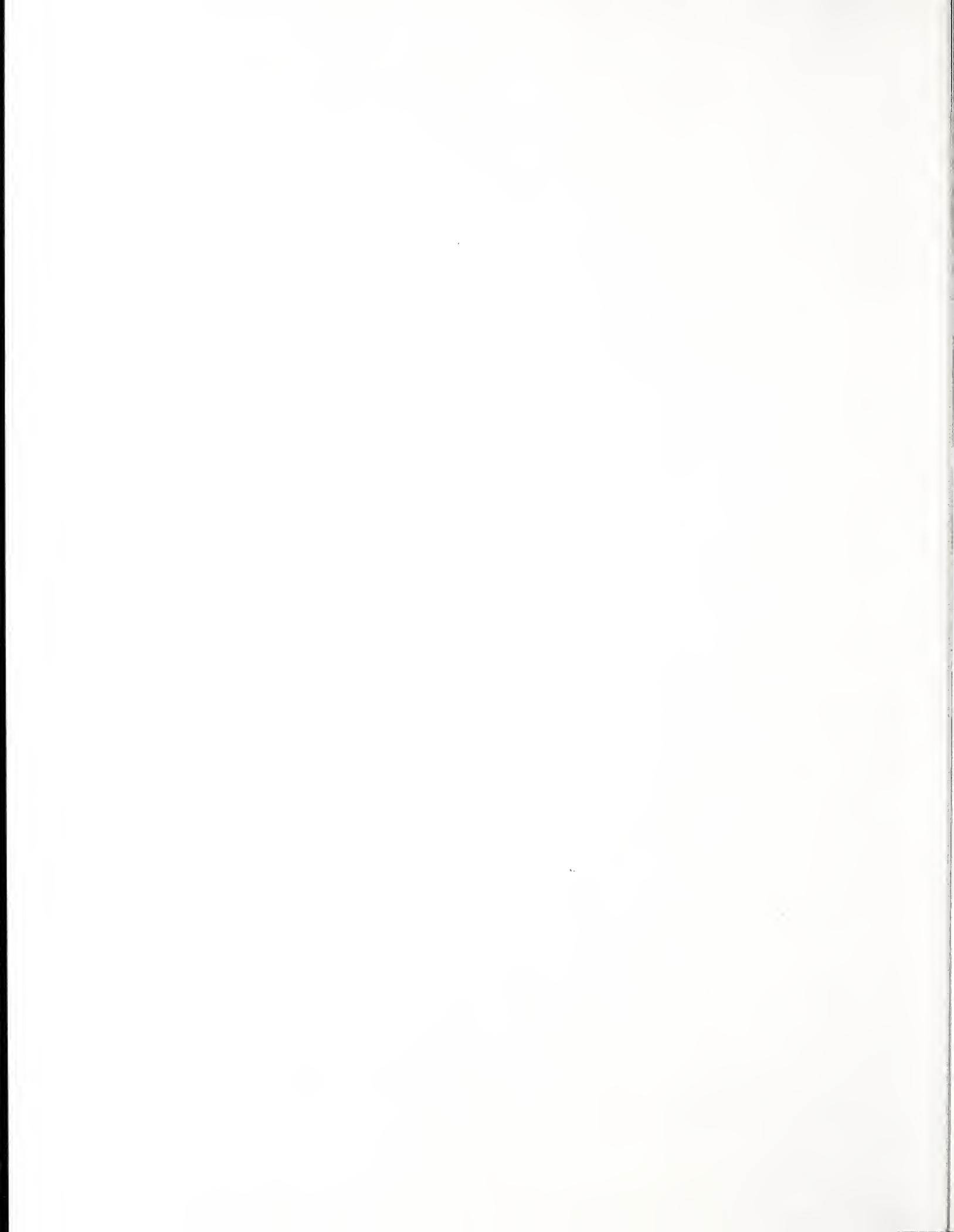
"General Winfield Scott, when a young man, was stationed at Fort Snelling—at that day perhaps the remotest military outpost in the country. When the Black Hawk war was begun some Illinois militia companies proffered their services. Two lieutenants were sent by Scott to Dixon, Ill., to muster the new soldiers. One of the lieutenants was a very fascinating young man, of pleasing manners and affable disposition; the other was equally pleasant but extremely modest. On the morning when the muster was to take place, a tall, gawky, slab sided, homely young man, dressed in a suit of blue jeans, presented himself to the lieutenants as the captain of the recruits, and was duly sworn in.

"The homely young man was Abraham Lincoln. The bashful lieutenant was he who afterwards fired the first gun from Fort Sumter, Major Anderson. The other lieutenant, who administered the oath, was in after years the president of the confederate states, Jefferson Davis."

Dr. Harsha was in Carter Brothers' book store, in New York City, where he chanced to repeat this story to a friend. An elderly gentleman who was sitting near by listening arose and remarked that he was happy to be able to confirm the facts, as he was the chaplain at Fort Snelling at the time, and was fully able to corroborate each statement. A bystander then gave the additional testimony that he had often heard Mr. Lincoln say that the first time he had ever taken the oath of allegiance to the United States it was administered by Jefferson Davis.

#### AS A SOLDIER.

About this time the Black Hawk War came on, and Lincoln enlisted as a soldier, and was chosen Captain of his company. He knew nothing of military tactics, and the task of drilling his men was a source of infinite trouble and mortification to him. He used to relate that once when it became necessary to pass through a gate much narrower than the lines he could not recollect the proper command, and at last, in desperation, shouted: "Halt! This company will break ranks for two minutes and form again on the other side of the gate." The maneuver was successfully executed. It happened that the company did not have any fighting to do during its short term of service; and afterward in a speech in Congress Lincoln gave a very amusing account of the campaign by way of satire upon the military pretensions of Gen. Lewis Cass. "All his biographers have him in hand," he said of Cass, "tying him to a military tail, like so many boys tying a dog to a bladder of beans;" and he went on to declare that while he had not charged upon anything more dangerous than wild onions, nor shed any blood except in struggles with the mosquitoes, he yet believed that he was entitled to equal credit with Cass as a warrior. At any rate, some years later, he obtained a bounty land warrant for his services, and located it in Iowa.



# Lincoln and the Old Indian

By Everett McNeil

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In the year 1832 the Black Hawk War broke out in northwestern Illinois and southwestern Wisconsin. The governor of Illinois called for volunteers to fight the Indians. Lincoln was one of the volunteers; and, although but twenty-three years old at that time, he was elected captain of his company. It was while serving as captain of this rough backwoods company of volunteers that an incident occurred that showed with electric light clearness the inherent greatness of his soul, and is worthy of being narrated again and again, until it is known by every American boy.

Black Hawk, the Indian chief, knew that the forces marching against him overwhelmingly outnumbered his little army of warriors, that it would be folly for him to attempt to face them and give them battle, and, cunning old fox that he was, he divided his men into small bands and sent them out to pillage and massacre wherever opportunity offered. They always fled before a large force of the enemy; but were always ready to spring upon a small detachment or a lonely settler. Thus the wily old chief managed to keep the whole region in a constant state of terror and several small armies of regulars and volunteers busy chasing his bands through the then wildernesses of northwestern Illinois and southwestern Wisconsin.

Lincoln and his company joined one of these small pursuing armies. But chasing the Indians was not catching them. They could never overtake the red men, although they frequently found terrible evidences of their presence—a pioneer's home burned to the ground, the cattle slaughtered and, sometimes, the mutilated bodies of the pioneer and his family.

One day Captain Lincoln and his company

were away from the detaining hand and, in a moment more, was vigorously elbowing his way through the press of men raging around the old Indian, who was shaking with fright and calling out: "Me good Indian! Me friend of whites!"

"Men!" and Lincoln sprang in front of the old Indian and, with an angry sweep of his long arms, knocked up the leveled guns. "This must not be done. He must not be shot and killed by us."

The old Indian, seeing that a friend had arrived in his dire need, now thrust a hand under the folds of his blanket and pulled out a piece of paper and handed it to Lincoln.

The mob fell back for a few steps, quelled, for the moment, by the fire in their young captain's eyes, then they again pressed forward.

"Stand aside, Lincoln!" they shouted. "He is a spy; and we are going to kill him. Remember the settler and his family! Stand aside, Lincoln!" and again the guns were leveled at the Indian.

"Men, listen!" and once more the long arms swept the guns aside and one hand held up the paper given him by the Indian. "This is a safe conduct for this old Indian, signed by General Cass himself, who declares him to be a good Indian who has done good service for the government. Let him be. I will take him to one of the commanding officers."

"The paper lies!" yelled one. "He is a spy!"

"Shoot him!"

"Hang him!"

"Burn him alive!"

"Remember the settler and his family!"

"Stand aside, Lincoln, and let us get at him!" yelled others.

But Lincoln stood immovable, his tall form erect, his great fists clenched and his eyes flash-



"THE MAN WHO SHOOTS THIS OLD INDIAN MUST FIRST SHOOT ME," CRIED LINCOLN.

came upon a particularly harrowing sight of this character—a whole family, father, mother and children, massacred and their bodies, badly mutilated, left for the wolves to eat.

The sight greatly enraged the men, and they vowed deadly vengeance on the first Indian that fell into their hands.

That evening while Captain Lincoln and his company were in camp, one of the men jumped suddenly to his feet and pointed excitedly to where a man was seen slowly approaching the camp.

"Look there!" he cried. "There comes an Indian and he is alone!"

In a moment all of Lincoln's men were on their feet, and in another moment, were rushing like a pack of hungry wolves toward the Indian.

Remember, the horrible scene of the murdered settler and his family was still fresh in their minds!

"See!" and Captain Lincoln jumped to his feet, "he is old, almost helpless from age! The men must not, shall not harm him," and his tall form stiffened and he started on the run for the men, who were already gathering wrathfully around the old Indian and yelling, "Kill him! Kill him!"

"God, man!" and one of his fellow officers leaped forward and caught hold of Lincoln's arm, "you are not going to interfere and try to save the Indian, are you? If you do, they will surely tear you to pieces along with the Indian."

"I am," and the flush in the eyes Lincoln turned on the other startled him even in that moment of excitement. "They are my men. The Indian is old and helpless and has thrown himself upon our mercy. They shall not harm him," and he broke

into a death-song.

"The man that shoots this helpless old Indian must first shoot me," he cried, his voice rising above the curses and the yells of the mob. "He is old and helpless. He has surrendered himself to our mercy. He shall not be killed."

"This is cowardly on your part, Lincoln," yelled one of the men angrily. "He is a spy. He ought to be killed; and we are going to kill him."

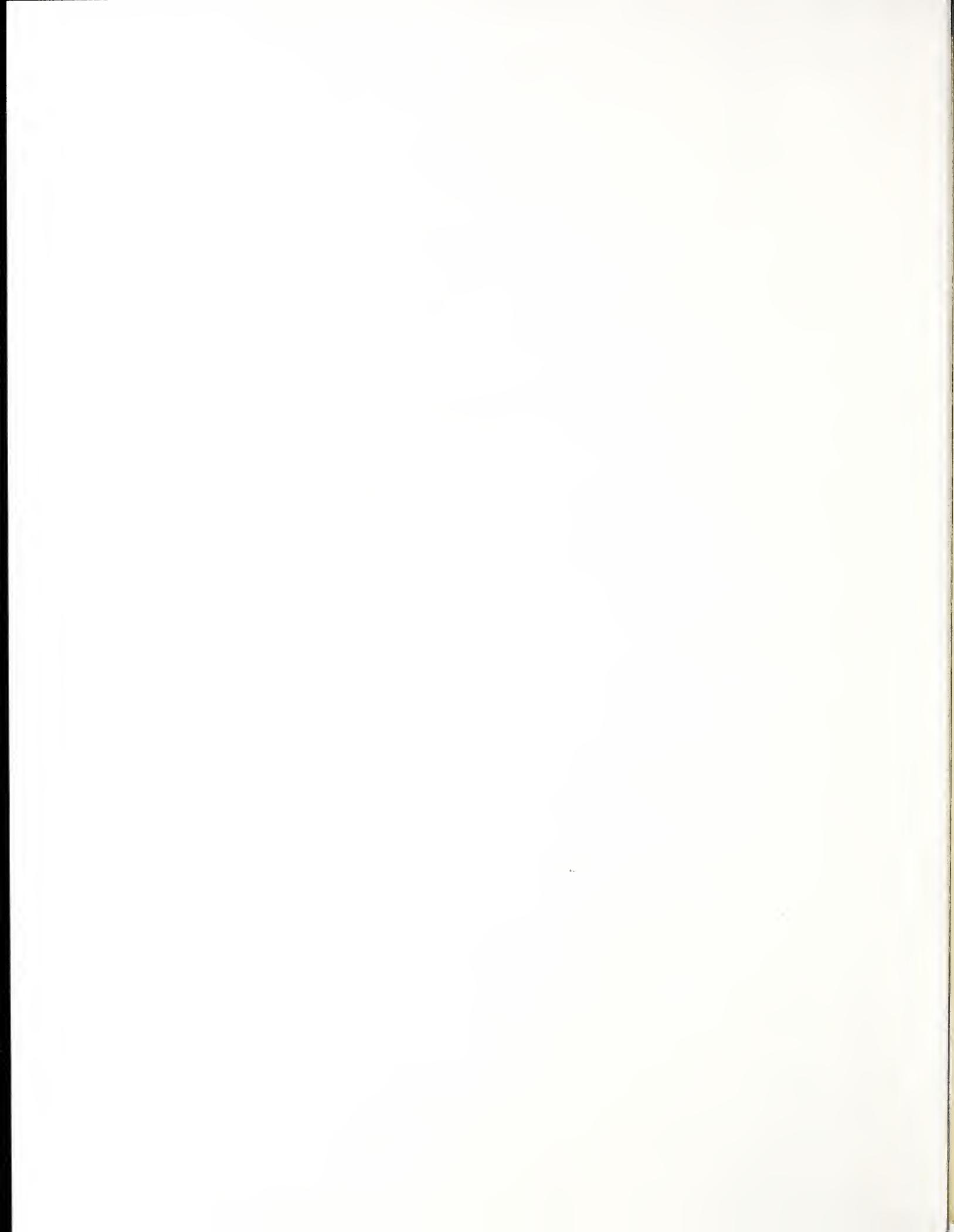
"If anyone thinks I am a coward, let him test it," and Lincoln raised his fists threateningly. "But, you are not going to kill this helpless old Indian, until you have first killed me."

"You are larger and heavier than we are," protested another. "And it is only an old Indian anyway. Stand aside, Lincoln, and let us get at him."

"You can guard against my size and weight. Choose your own weapons. I'll fight you all, one at a time or all together, before I'll let you harm a hair of the head of this old Indian, who has come to us, trusting in the white man's mercy. Now, who'll be the first to test Abe Lincoln's courage?" and his eyes swept the circle of faces.

For a moment the men hesitated, then the cowardly spirit of the mob quelled before the dauntless courage and the steady eyes of the young volunteer captain, and, one by one, as if ashamed of the part they had taken, they began to slink away, leaving Lincoln to do as he pleased with the old Indian.

A brave and knightly deed, a deed that thus early typified the heroic character of the Great Emancipator, Abraham Lincoln.



REMINISCENCES OF THE BLACK HAWK WAR. AN  
INTERESTING LETTER FROM GEN. ROBERT  
ANDERSON TO E. B. WASHBURN—CONTRIBUTED  
BY SIDNEY S. BREESE.

MRS. JESSIE PALMER WEBER,  
Secretary Illinois State Historical Society,  
State House, Springfield, Illinois.

DEAR MRS. WEBER:

The enclosure relative to the Black Hawk War was sent to me by my cousin James B. Breese of Trenton, New Jersey.

This was given to him by a daughter of Robert Anderson, whom he just met recently at Lakewood, New Jersey.

Of this lady (Mrs. Eba Anderson Lawton), he says, "The lady who gave me this copy was a daughter of Robert Anderson. She was a very interesting lady indeed and knew many of our family connections."

I am going to ask that you make a copy of the enclosure and after doing so kindly return original to me, that I may send it to my cousin, who requested that it be returned.

You will note that there is a postscript to this letter evidently written by one General Vale, in which he comments on the letter.

These pages are evidently the original manuscript of some book, or memoirs, or something of that sort.

Minister Washburne tells the story of this episode in his career with a remarkable simplicity and modesty.

Very truly yours,

SIDNEY S. BREESE.

*Journal, The Black Hawk War Oct. 1907*

ROBERT ANDERSON TO E. B. WASHBURNE.

TOURS, FRANCE, May 10, 1870.

To E. B. WASHBURNE,  
Envoy Extraordinary, and  
Minister Plenipotentiary of  
The United States of America,  
Paris, France.

MY DEAR SIR:

After our recent conversation about the Black Hawk War, you asked me to put my recollections of some of the incidents connected therewith in writing, and you were kind enough to suggest that my reminiscences would be of much interest to many of the old settlers in your adopted State. I should state, however, that my memory has been a good deal impaired, and that, therefore, many allowances must be made.

When the Indian disturbances under Black Hawk broke out in the spring of 1832, I was on duty at the St. Louis Arsenal, which was then under the command of Lieutenant Robert Bland Lee. I may here say that I graduated at the West Point Military Academy in 1825. When the hostilities commenced, General Atkinson was in command of Jefferson Barracks, and he was put in command of the expedition to suppress them. He proceeded at once to Fort Armstrong, on Rock Island. Having obtained the consent of my commanding officer, I volunteered to join his expedition, which I did at Rock Island. He immediately assigned me to duty as Assistant Inspector General on his staff. Many volunteers had gathered at Rock Island. Governor John Reynolds, of Illinois, soon arrived and took up his quarters with General Atkinson, and he remained with us nearly all the time till the close of the war.

After a considerable augmentation of the troops at Rock Island, we moved our forces up Rock River in keel boats, as far as Dixon's Ferry, so called after Captain Dixon, the first settler there. We made that place the general rendezvous of all the troops coming in. The cavalry had a camp on the south side of the river, and the infantry were in an intrenched camp on

the north side. The officers in command of the Illinois troops were General Henry, and General Posey, and another General whose name at this moment has escaped me; but General Atkinson was in command of the expedition. The force remained at Dixon's Ferry some two or three months, drilling and making some small expeditions.

We had a force of some fifteen hundred cavalry, the finest troops I ever saw. While at Dixon's Ferry, we were joined by a body of friendly Indians, headed by the Chief Chebansse, (I may not spell the name correctly). It was during this time that I went on an expedition to Ottawa with General Atkinson. It was then a small trading post, with only a few houses. We found one company of troops there whose term of service had expired. I mustered it out of service, but most of the men immediately re-enlisted, and I had the satisfaction of mustering them in again. Henry Dodge, afterward so well known, and so much distinguished as Colonel of Regiment of Rangers, authorized to be raised by Congress, was with us, and also Boon and Ford as Captains in the same regiment. Boon was a son of the celebrated Daniel Boon. I also mustered Abraham Lincoln twice into the service, and once out. He was a member of two of the independent companies which were not brigaded. The first time I mustered him into the service was at the mouth of Fox River, May 29, 1832, in Captain Elijah Iker (Iles) company. The Lieutenants in the company were J. M. Harriman and H. B. Roberts. The value of his arms was forty dollars, and his horse and equipments one hundred and twenty dollars. I mustered him out of the service at the "Rapids of the Illinois," June 16, 1832, and in four days afterwards at the same place, I mustered him into service again in Captain Jacob Early's company. The Lieutenants in this last company were G. W. Glasscock and B. D. Rush. Of course I had no recollection of Mr. Lincoln, but when President he reminded me of the fact.

I might mention that previous to this time, Governor Reynolds gave me a commission of Inspector General in the Illinois volunteer service, with the rank of Colonel. I now

have in my possession at home, that commission as an officer in the service of that State, now become so great and powerful. I recollect the fight at "Stillman's Run," some twenty miles above Dixon's Ferry, in which Colonel Strode, of one of the Illinois regiments, figured quite conspicuously. Among the officers who were with us at Dixon's Ferry, there were several who afterward became distinguished. There was Captain, afterward General Riley, distinguished in Mexico and California, and Lieutenant Albert Sydney Johnston, Aid and Assistant Adjutant General on General Atkinson's Staff, afterward so well known as a General in the rebel service, and who was killed at Shiloh. He was a cool, clear-headed man, and an excellent officer. Indeed, I have always considered him the ablest officer the rebels ever had in their service. Captain William S. Harney, (now General Harney), of the 1st Infantry, was also with us, a bold dashing officer, indefatigable in duty. So was also Captain William Graham, of the regular army, afterward Lieutenant Colonel, and killed at the battle of Molino del Rey.

The names of the members of General Atkinson's Staff, as nearly as I can recall them, were:

Lieutenant A. S. Johnston, A. D. C. Assistant Adjutant General, Lieutenant M. L. Clark (son of General William Clark, Governor of Missouri, who went with Lewis to explore the Rocky Mountains), A. D. C; Lieutenant Robert Anderson, Assistant Inspector General; Lieutenant W. Wheelwright, Ordnance Officer; Lieutenant N. J. Eaton, Chief Commissary Department; Colonel Enoch March, Quartermaster General.

The last named gentleman, was I think, the Quartermaster of the State of Illinois, and an extraordinary man, fertile in resources, prompt in deciding as well as acting. He was of inestimable service to us during the campaign.

General Reynolds was accompanied, if my memory serves me, by the Adjutant General of his State, General Turney. In every brigade there was a spy battalion. Captain Early was, in addition to those named to you, Captain of one of those companies.

William S. Hamilton, son of Alexander Hamilton, joined us at Dixon's Ferry, with a small party of friendly Indians. He was of much use to us from his knowledge of the Indian character and of the country.

The first movement of our troops was up Rock River and with a view of finding the Indians and giving them battle. My duty was to be in the advance, and select camping grounds for the troops. I was a great deal with the "Spy Battalion," commanded by Major W. L. D. Ewing of Vandalia, a brave and efficient officer. Jacob Fry was Colonel of the regiments in Henry's brigade, an excellent officer and an honest man.

Sidney Breese, since so distinguished in your State, was one of the Lieutenant Colonels. The country through which we passed (it was in July), was beautiful beyond description, surpassing everything I have ever seen in our own country, in Mexico or in Europe. The Indians constantly retreated as we advanced. Finally they struck west to cross the Mississippi River. We overtook them at "Bad Axe," on the bank of the river, on the 2d of August, 1832, just as they were making arrangements to cross, and there was fought the battle of Bad Axe, which ended in the complete rout of the Indians. It was a fight in the ravines, on the bottom land, and among logs and trees and underbrush. Black Hawk escaped, but was captured some time afterward, and taken to Fort Crawford and surrendered to Colonel Zachary Taylor, who was then in command of that post. The battle of Bad Axe having virtually ended the war, the troops were moved back to Dixon's Ferry and Rock Island, at which place I mustered them out of the service. General Scott was sent out to supersede General Atkinson, and take command of the expedition, but he did not reach the theatre of operations before the close of the war. He got down as far as Galena and from there he went to Fort Armstrong, where he established his headquarters. From Dixon's Ferry I was sent by General Atkinson with dispatches for General Scott at Rock Island, and to report to him for duty. He at once assigned me to duty, placing me in charge of the Indian prisoners. I have the record of the names of all these prisoners

among my papers. I have also among my papers in New York, all the original muster rolls of the Illinois troops, and I will take great pleasure in putting them at your disposal to be placed at your discretion among the archives of the State, or of some historical society in the State. This should be done with the approbation of the War Department.

General Scott having received information from Colonel Taylor of the capture of Black Hawk and a few of his chiefs, he detailed me with a guard to go to Fort Crawford for them, and to bring them to Fort Armstrong. We took for that purpose the steamboat Warrior, Captain Throckmorton. We left Rock Island early in the day, and before night there was indications of cholera among the soldiers on board the boat. There was no surgeon on board, and I did the best I could for them. When we arrived at the mouth of Fevre River, I had the boat tied up and took a skiff and went up to Galena in search of a doctor. I there found Dr. Addison Phileo who had been with us in the campaign, and he cheerfully returned with me to the steamboat, and took charge of my sick. We then continued our trip to Fort Crawford, where I delivered my orders to Colonel Taylor. By this time I had the cholera myself, and was scarcely fit for duty. Colonel Taylor, therefore, assigned to me for my assistance in returning with the Indians to Fort Armstrong, his Adjutant, Lieutenant Jefferson Davis. We took with us Black Hawk, his two sons, the Prophet and some other chiefs.

On reaching Fort Armstrong, the cholera was raging so violently in camp, that General Scott ordered the steamer to go immediately to Jefferson Barracks. I there turned my prisoners over to General Atkinson, who had resumed command of the post. I then resumed my original position at the St. Louis Arsenal, the temporary command of which post devolved on me some months afterwards.

Such, my dear sir, are some of my recollections of the "Black Hawk War," which created a great deal of excitement in the Northwest, and which was a great event in its day. It was my first service in the field, and I entered into it with all the zeal of a young officer who loved his profession and desired

faithfully to serve his country. I have retained many pleasant memories of the officers and soldiers with whom I was associated. There were never finer troops than the Illinois volunteer soldiers that we had with us. They were brave, intelligent and sober men, and always yielding a ready obedience to the commands of their officers. Many of them, both officers and privates, have since reached high positions in public life, and have reflected great credit, not only upon the State, but upon the Nation.

I have the honor to be, very truly

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT ANDERSON.

GENERAL VALE:

"In this simple narrative, this plain unvarnished tale, we read the character of Robert Anderson at a glance, and what a picture it presents of remarkable historic personalities. Such a grouping of individuals may never again be possible. In the foreground is the Hon. E. B. Washburne, Minister to France, during the most desperate hour of her existence, when Paris seemed to be one vast mad-house, and to the American Minister fell the task of protecting the lives of thousands, not only his own countrymen, who felt themselves safe only beneath the folds of the Stars and Stripes. Calm and dispassionate amid a fearful tumult he earned the grateful thanks of all the Nations for his courage and wise discretion, and here also we see the tall form of General Scott, Commander-in-Chief of the Army, still suffering from his wounds at Chippewa, and yet to be the conqueror of Mexico, and Lundys Lane, and Zachary Taylor, "Old Rough and Ready" to be in after years the hero of Buena Vista and the President of the United States, and Colonel Bennett Riley, to be the hero of Cerro Gordo, and General Atkinson, the successful hero of the battle which is described, and Lieutenant Albert Sydney Johnston of Kentucky, Chief of Staff to General Atkinson, whose heroic life and achievements would fill a volume. Commander of the Army in Texas in the War of the Revolution, Commander of gallant regiment in the war with

Mexico, successful commander of the expedition against the Mormons in Utah, and commander of the Confederate Army at Shiloh, that defeated the Union Army in the first day's battle, where he was mortally wounded. Captain William S. Harney, afterwards General Harney, of Mexican fame, and a celebrated Indian fighter; and there was Sidney Breese, an eminent citizen, afterwards United States Senator from Illinois; and those other three, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, JEFFERSON DAVIS, and ROBERT ANDERSON."

## *Hardship But Not Glory to Lincoln in Blackhawk War*

*See Report 2-12-19*  
It may be consolatory news to the soldiers who didn't get overseas and were disappointed because they didn't to think that Abraham Lincoln tried to fight for his country once as a private in the ranks, only to find that the fight was over before he had had a chance to fire a gun at the enemy. The hardships were ls, but the military glory was not. It was in 1832, when Black Hawk, chief of the Sac and Fox Indians, made war on the forts and settlers in northern Illinois and Wisconsin. Lincoln, twenty-four years old, enlisted in a volunteer company of mounted rangers. In the same war Zachary Taylor, afterward president, was commandant at Fort Crawford, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, and under him, as lieutenant, was Jefferson Davis.

The war was over and Chief Black Hawk brought captive to Fort Crawford before Lincoln had seen any actual fighting, yet on the march and in camp he had made himself so popular with his comrades that soon after his return to New Salem, Ill., his townsmen nominated him for the legislature.

In later years, when Zachary Taylor was a candidate for president and extravagant claims for military honors were set up by the democratic candidate, Gen. Lewis Cass, Lincoln, then in congress, and an ardent supporter of Gen. Taylor, ridiculed Cass' pretensions to soldier fame in a speech before the house and alluded to his own military career in the Black Hawk war in this way:

"By the way, Mr. Speaker, did you know I am a military hero? Yes, sir. In the days of the Black Hawk war I fought, bled and came away. Speaking of Gen. Cass' career reminds me of my own. I was not at Stillman's defeat, but I was about as near it as Cass was to Hull's surrender, and, like him, I saw the place very soon afterward. It is quite certain I did not break my sword, for I had none to break, but I bent my musket by accident. If Gen. Cass went in advance of me in picking whortle berries, I guess I surpassed him in charging on the wild onions. If he saw any live, fighting Indians, it was more than I did, but I had a good many bloody struggles with the mosquitoes, and although I never fainted for loss of blood, I can truly say I was often very hungry.

Lincoln was given a quarter section of wild land in Iowa for his services as a soldier. A comrade in the ranks was John T. Stuart, who took Mr. Lincoln into law partnership with him. The Lieutenant Robert Anderson who mustered Lincoln into service was the Major Anderson who commanded Fort Sumter when it was fired on in 1861. At an interview with President Lincoln after the evacuation of Sumter Major Anderson was surprised when asked by the president: "Major, do you ever remember meeting me before?" To Anderson's admission that he had no such recollection, Lincoln replied: "My memory is better than yours. You mustered me into the service of the United States in 1832 at Dixon's Ferry in the Black Hawk war."



## Sundial stands where Lincoln was re-enlisted

Illinois - Ottawa

# Sundial Stands Where Lincoln Was Re-enlisted

Milwaukee Journal, 2-6-25

BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE JOURNAL

Ottawa, Ill.—In April, 1832, soon after the Black Hawk war broke out, Lincoln joined a newly organized company of militia. There were a number of candidates for captain and each of whom made speeches and promises in true twentieth century style. The awkward young man from Salem was not one of these and had nothing to say. Finally it was decided that the choice of captain should be decided by vote. The method of voting was for each candidate to "stand out" whereupon his followers would fall in behind him.

Everyone expected Lincoln to step out as a candidate but instead of that he fell in behind one of the others. After some conversation between his friends one of them pulled him out of line, at the same time shouting, "Fall in behind Abe." As the majority of the men left their places and fell in behind Lincoln he was declared captain of the company.

Many amusing incidents occurred while Lincoln was learning the ways of the militia, for he was as green as the rawest recruit. It is said that at one time when he was marching his men 20 abreast, they came to a narrow gate through which they were to pass. The captain could not think of the command which would place his men in single file formation so he shouted, "This company is dismissed for two minutes, when it will fall in again on the other side of the gate." After only a few days drilling the company followed the trail of Black Hawk across to Rock river and was present at Dixon when Stillman was defeated.

### Indians Terrorized Citizen

Discouraged by this defeat and finding that Indian warfare was not all the fun they had expected it to be, many of the men asked to be released. Believing that the display of fear and lack of discipline shown by the volunteers when they unexpectedly met their red-skinned enemies along the banks of Rock river would tend to encourage the treacherous Black Hawk, the commander refused to grant the request. Although Stillman lost but 11 men and the scattered settlements of the valley were at the mercy of Black Hawk's band of 700 it was impossible to hold the disgruntled militia in any kind of control.

Fearing that his command would become completely demoralized and realizing that the expiration of the time of enlistment was drawing near, he gave orders to proceed to Ottawa. Although keenly disappointed in the men who had chosen him their leader, and anxious over the probable fate of the settlers now left unprotected, Lincoln accepted the order of his superior as just and obeyed them to the letter. Following the trail to Paw Paw Grove the company encamped for the night, then marched on to Indian creek, which was so soon to flow red with the blood of the ill-fated Pettigrew.

Davis families. From Indian country Lincoln led his men down the river and encamped on the east bank of the Fox just above its mouth with the Illinois. The land so occupied is today a part of East Ottawa.

### Capt. Lincoln Becomes Private

On the morning of May 27, 1832, the entire command forded the Fox river to a triangular piece of ground formed by the junction of the two rivers. Here Gov. Reynolds discharged them and they were free to return to their homes. Immediately the governor finished speaking Col. Fry asked their attention. With burning words he pictured the distress of the scattered families even now being massacred by the Indians. Certain death, was sure to follow such desertion by the soldiers. He was willing, he said, to go into the field again and do what he could to protect these helpless people.

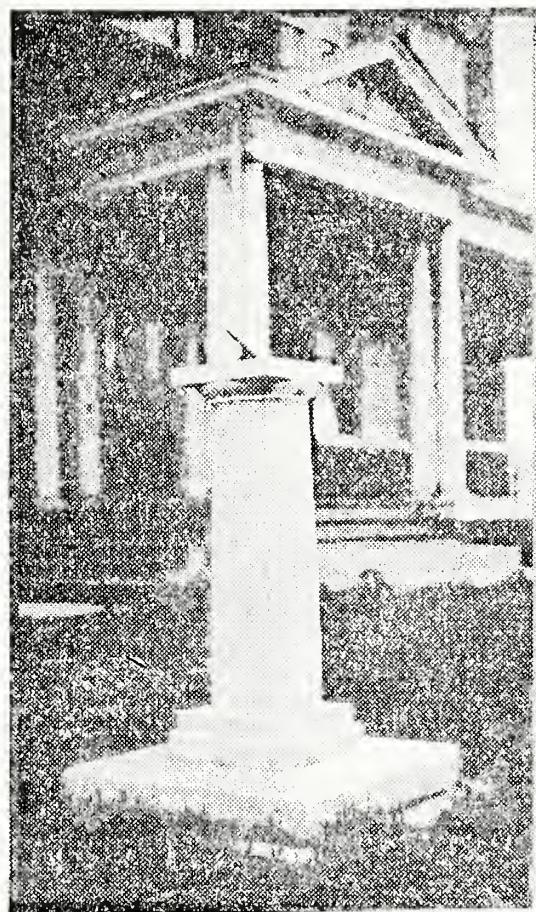
Abraham Lincoln was one of the first to enlist as a private under Col. Fry and history tells us he fought nobly until the end of the war without one regret for his lost honors. The small company enlisted that day was augmented by recruits until the whole force numbered 3,200 men. You know the rest, how the Buffalo Grove, Bureau Creek and Indian Creek settlers lost their lives, how Black Hawk's warriors infested the country even far up in Wisconsin, and how Gen. Atkinson took command and followed the trail relentlessly until the homes of the pioneers were safe and secure.

Perhaps Lincoln did no more than any red blooded American would do today, but it took courage to give up a captaincy, with no fuss nor feathers, enlist as a private and not only take orders but follow them explicitly. The people of Ottawa are proud that Lincoln fulfilled his duty as a private. They are proud that it was upon their ground he stood when he re-enlisted and that upon the banks of their Fox he slept, while waiting for the day the outcome of which he could not even guess.

On the exact spot upon which Lincoln stood when he was first recruited out and where he again enlisted a sundial has been erected.



Sundial on marble pedestal, Ottawa, Ill., which marks spot where Capt. Lincoln re-enlisted as private in Indian wars.





**Journal of Illinois State Historical Society**

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**THE NEW BLACK HAWK STATE PARK.**

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By JOHN H. HAUBERG.

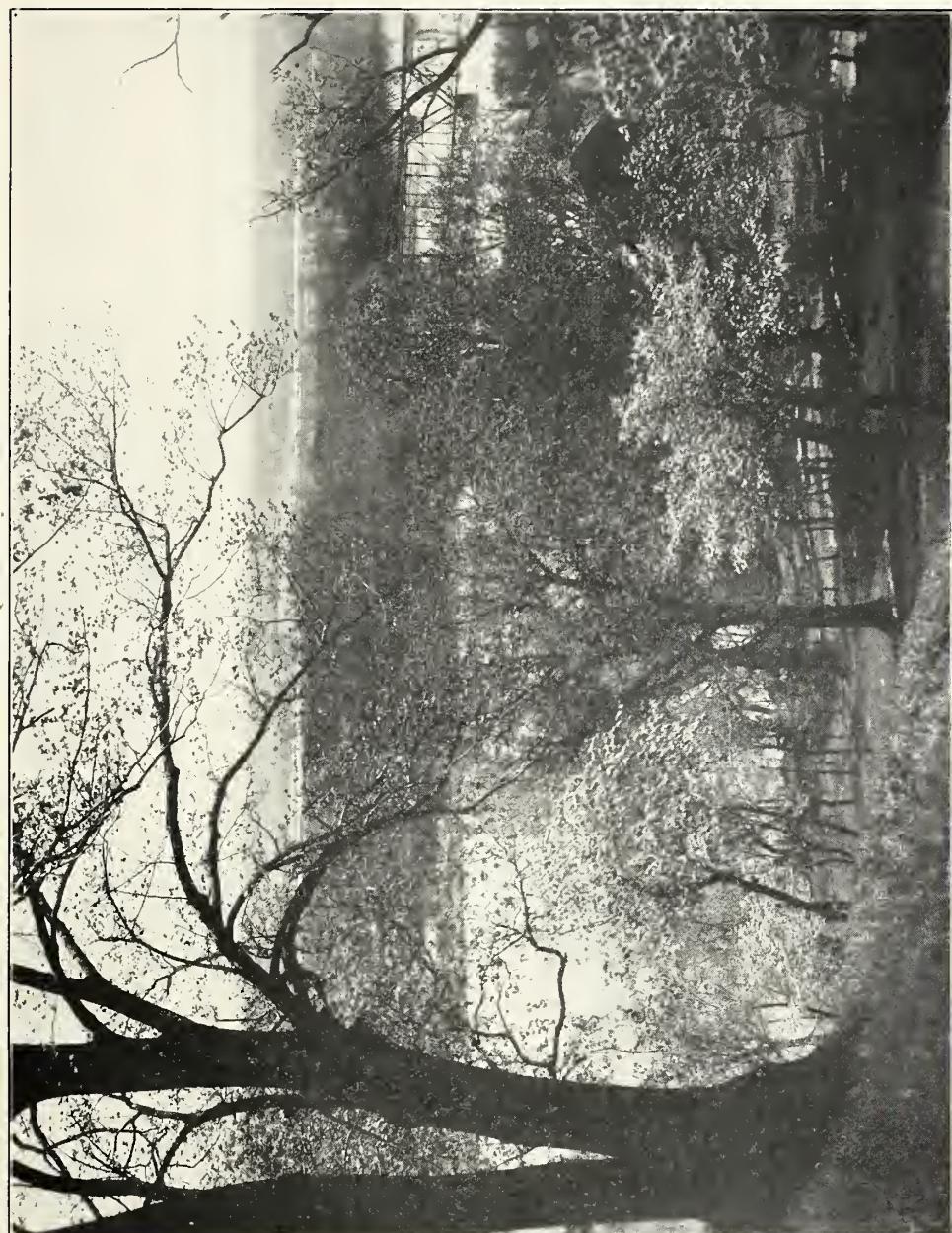
Black Hawk's Watch Tower was admitted into the notable family of Illinois State Parks when Governor Len Small, on the 29th day of June, 1927, affixed his signature to the bill which completed all the legislation necessary. The Senate had passed the Bill without a dissenting vote and the House had passed it with but nine votes against it.

That this beautiful spot should be preserved to the people of the State for all time, is a fine memorial to the brave men of the early Thirties who by the thousands, and from every inhabited part of the State of Illinois offered their lives in the contest being waged with the Indians for possession of these very grounds, many of whom made the supreme sacrifice in its behalf.

The preservation of Black Hawk's Watch Tower as a State Park is a tribute to the spirit of one of America's greatest patriot Indians, Black Hawk. Here he was born and this was his home for Sixty-five years. This spot had for him a "fatal attraction." He could not give it up without a contest with the white intruder. The war bearing his name was fought in the years 1831 and 1832, and the unequal struggle all but annihilated his followers. From that time the name Black Hawk has struck the fancy of the Americans as that of no other Indian. At a recent meeting when the story of Black Hawk and his Watch Tower were under discussion, the speaker exhibited a collection of two hundred volumes, by many authors, every one of which carried stories of Black Hawk and his Indians, and these were but a fraction of the books bearing upon this historic subject. It was asserted that

no other Indian has had so much written about him as has Black Hawk.

Perhaps there is no other place which offered so good an opportunity for the preservation of an Indian village-site. Admittedly our country, somewhere, should hand down to posterity a bit of virgin soil which in its day was the home of a great tribe of aborigines; where generation after generation was born; where they lived and loved; and achieved for themselves a great name both among the whites and those of their own race. It would be difficult to find another place where the requirements for such memorial park are so well blended. First of all the site is of rare beauty. It is more than likely that its beauty, coupled with the fertility of the soil hereabouts is what first attracted the Sauk and Fox to this place. Rock River is a stream of unusual attractiveness and here perhaps is its most striking bit of scenery. Coupled with scenic charm is a wealth of history and tradition perhaps not approached by any other spot in the nation. The east side of the Mississippi Valley saw many a bloody struggle to push the Indian farther west. The Black Hawk war was the last of these. Black Hawk's village site of which the Watch Tower was the dominant natural feature, had close connection with the wars between contending whites—the French and Indian War; the Revolutionary War, and the war of 1812-'14. In all these the Sauk and Fox of the Watch Tower village had a part, sometimes on the winning side, sometimes among the losers. Interesting as are the accounts of these struggles, it would make a vastly more interesting story could we but have the facts of the intertribal wars, in which the Sauk and Fox as a rule came off victorious. For during their residence here they took by conquest the greater part of the present State of Iowa and that part of Missouri which lies north of the Missouri River, besides holding a considerable part of northwestern Illinois and southwestern Wisconsin. Those who inhabited the Watch Tower village were very rich in tradition. In fact an ethnologist who has for some years been working among the descendants of these



AT THE WATCH TOWER.

In his last recorded speech, at Burlington, Iowa, Black Hawk said. "Rock River was a beautiful country. I loved my town, my cornfields and the home of my people. I fought for them."



KEOKUK.

Painted from life by Catlin. The original is in the National Museum,  
Washington, D. C.

Keokuk was born at the Watch Tower village, 1787, and lived here until just previous to the Black Hawk War. After the close of that unhappy contest, the U. S. authorities recognized him as the principal chief of the Sauk and Fox nation.

people, under direction of the Smithsonian Institute, says the traditions of these people seem practically inexhaustible. Those traditions have to do with their religion; folk lore; heroes, legendary and otherwise, and the thousand and one subjects which the white man commits to paper for preservation while the Indian carried all in his memory.

The new Black Hawk State Park consists of about one hundred seventy-five acres, adjoining the city of Rock Island and having a front of a half mile on Rock River. The tract is mostly wooded. It is pastured, and some wood and coal have been taken from the tract but it has never been touched by the plow. Along Rock River are some sandstone ledges which add to the interest, and as this section of Rock River, for a distance of ten miles, is a part of the Illinois and Michigan canal it insures deep-water boating—the channel marked by the U. S. Government with buoys, and has first class deep-water connection with the Mississippi, two and a half miles west, as also connection via the canal with the Illinois River and a fine course up Rock River itself. The woods are rich in bird life and a large variety of wild flowers common to this zone are still to be found here. The greatest charm, however, is found at the point of the hill or "Tower"—which is but a hilltop and not a man-made tower, rising abruptly 150 feet above the river. From this point one has a view of several miles up and down the river of stream, woodland, and field; a scene which never loses its interest.

There is much to interest the artist, the poet and the writer of stories. As mentioned above, it is exceedingly rich in tradition, and on the other hand, its historic connections are as well authenticated as any fact in American history, so there is much to offer to the writer of history. To say that the village was burned in 1780 by a force of soldiers sent here by command of General George Rogers Clark; that in the war of 1812-'14 an American army was sent here to destroy the village and growing crops; that in 1831 the Illinois Volunteers burned the village, and that in 1832 the place was again invaded by an army, gives us just a glimpse of some of the

transactions which add color to the picture which may be drawn, whether by brush or pen.

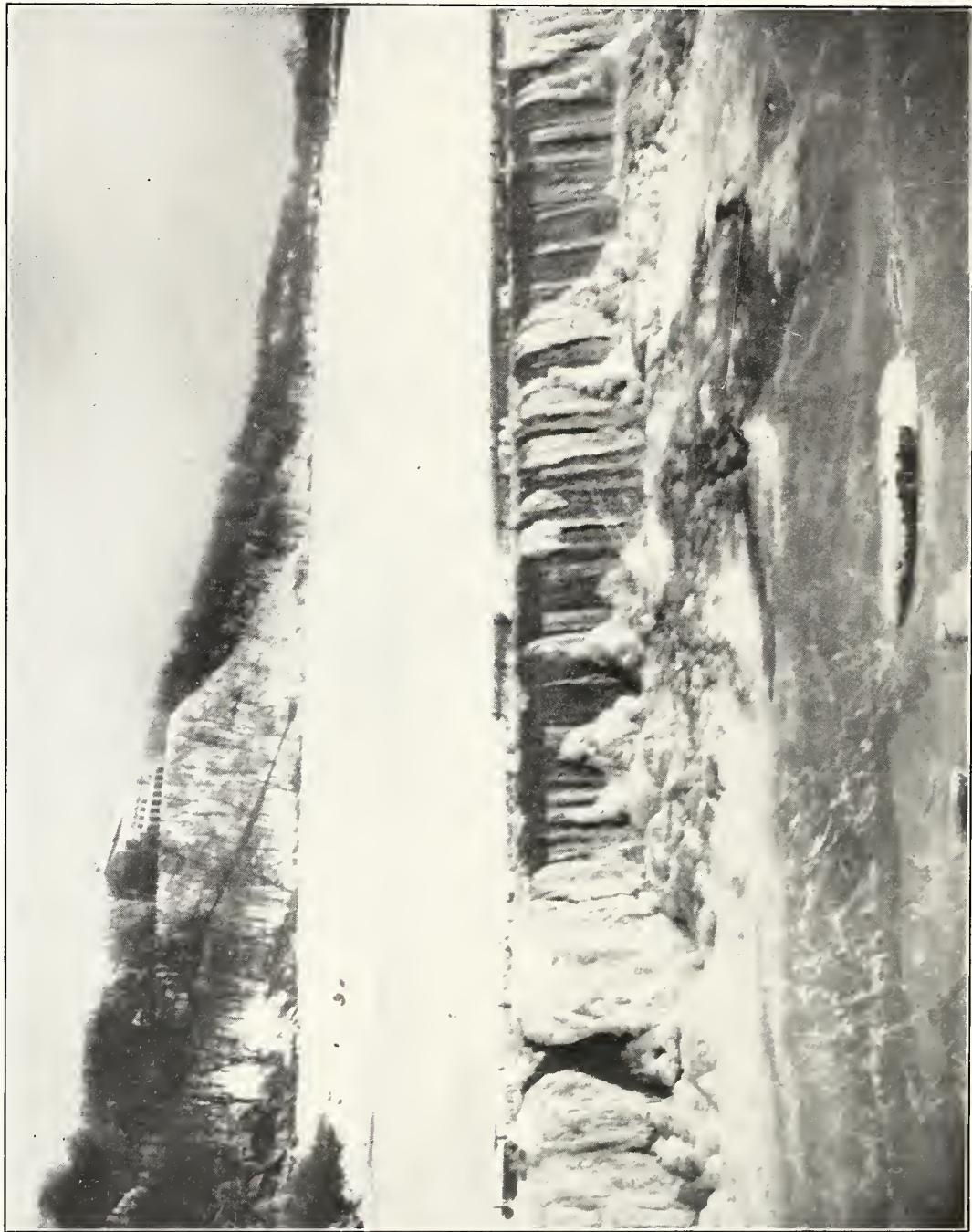
Among historic scenes may be mentioned the last remnant of French military power, a force of one hundred thirty-two men, on their retreat from Mackinac to old Fort Chartres (both places named are now State parks, one in Michigan the other in Illinois). The French had given up hope of any further triumph over the British and had started down the Mississippi late in the fall of 1760. The big river closed with ice, and so they put up for the winter among their friends at the Watch Tower. Their commander was Beaujeu, a brother of the man who led the victorious hosts at Braddock's defeat. Probably some of the very inhabitants of this village had had a hand in that victory over the British for it is a matter of history that Sauk and Fox warriors were among the Indian allies present and fighting in that battle.

Previous to the coming to Illinois of George Rogers Clark, there had been received at the Watch Tower, a belt of wampum from the "Bostonians"—the Americans, and from this place there were sent—under direction of a Sauk leader, Le Main Cassee, a number of delegations to various tribes of the old Northwest, urging them to keep out of the ranks of the British forces which were operating against the Colonial frontiers, burning and massacring helpless women and children while the men were serving in the armies of General Washington. This in itself, is an item of credit to those who wielded authority here in those trying times of the Revolution.

More tense, however, was the scene in April, 1779, when a British commander with a force of 280 men called at the Watch Tower, doubtless to try to persuade some of the Sauk and Fox to enlist with him. Le Main Cassee roundly denounced the British and laughed at their threats made against the Sauk and Fox if they failed to enter the service of the great father the King across the sea. "Not satisfied with this insolence" so wrote the British Captain in charge, "I was forced to leave 120 men, and I believe if they had been strong enough, they would have seized me to deliver me to the



THE RETURN OF A SAUK WAR PARTY—By Catlin.  
The original is in National Museum at Washington.



BLACK HAWK'S WATCH TOWER FROM THE BRIDGE, SHOWING THE INN AT THE TOP.

Bostonians." This too, was a fine piece of work in behalf of the American cause.

In the spring of 1780 there came a British force of near a thousand men—white and red, bent upon the execution of one of the grandest schemes of the Revolutionary war. It was the conquest of both sides of the Mississippi, the western side then held by Spain; the eastern side by the Americans under George Rogers Clark. They stopped at the Watch Tower and compelled the Sauk and Fox to join them. This purpose accomplished, they continued on their way, confident that nothing could hinder their complete success. There was fighting both at St. Louis and at Cahokia and at both places the British were defeated. The Lieutenant Governor of Canada in writing an account of British defeat laid the blame upon "The treachery of the Sauk and Fox" and their leaders. Here, Gentle Reader, is a place to stop and ponder. For if the Lieutenant Governor of Canada was correct in his statement, it follows that we of Illinois and the old Northwest territory owe it to the Watch Tower Indians, that we are under the Stars and Stripes and not under a British king.

But General Clark was not content merely to defeat the Britons. He immediately organized a force of allied troops; Spanish subjects from west of the Mississippi, French habitants of Illinois and his own followers from Kentucky and Virginia, and, giving the command to Col. John Montgomery sent him in pursuit of those who dared to dispute with him for possession of the Illinois country. It was doubtless intended that this expedition of three hundred fifty men—the largest army to march in all the Illinois campaigns of the revolutionary war, was to penetrate the wilds as far north as Prairie du Chien. They were to chastise the Indians, burn their villages, and prove to them that General Clark and his men were not lightly to be dealt with. Col. Montgomery reached only the Sauk and Fox village at the Watch Tower. Evidently he did not know it was filled with friends for the American cause. It is more than likely, however, that some braves from this village were in some instances aiding the

British, for among the tribes named who marched with Burgoyne in 1777 were those of the Sauk and Fox, and again in June 1778 there were Sauk and Fox among those sent to Canada by the British agent. But be this as it may, Montgomery and his men fell upon the Watch Tower village and burned it to the ground. The Braves meanwhile, seven hundred of them so it is said, stood off and made no resistance. The reason for this non-combative spirit, Montgomery laid to the fact that they "had so recently been defeated." But these warriors were hardly of the kind to stand meekly by for any such reason. It is easier to believe they did not want to fight those with whom they had been on friendly terms, and with whom they had been carrying on a profitable trade in lead and other commodities.

The village destroyed, Col. Montgomery found it necessary to retrace his steps for his food supplies were exhausted. It was with great difficulty that he traversed the return trail, and they slaughtered their horses for food in order to get back at all.

Black Hawk at this time was a boy of twelve years. Throughout his career as a leader and when there was a clash between the Americans and British, he was always found on the British side. One wonders whether the burning of his home village by Montgomery might have influenced the boy and helped to set his prejudices against the Americans.

In the war of 1812-'14 Black Hawk marched off at the head of 200 warriors and enlisted in the British cause. The last year of that war he was back at his old home at the Watch Tower but still held himself subject to call by British authorities. In May, 1814, some of his men attacked Gov. William Clark as the latter ascended the Mississippi to attack the British at Prairie du Chien. On the 19th of July of the same year, Black Hawk at the head of hundreds of his followers attacked the fleet under Lt. John Campbell, and sixteen Americans were killed that day, about ten miles from the Watch Tower while another fight was staged a few miles farther up the Mississippi where Port Byron, Ill., is now located. On

September 5th of the same year, Maj. Zachary Taylor, afterward President, came to chastise Black Hawk and to destroy his village and growing crops, but he was defeated at the mouth of Rock River, two and a half miles from the Watch Tower. Black Hawk in this battle had the aid of a British battery and large numbers of Indian allies of the tribes to the north. It was a proud day for him. All the women, children and other non-combatants of his village, had been sent to the island of Rock Island to be out of harms way as he cleared for action, for he not only expected a real battle—he hoped for, and looked eagerly forward to a real test of strength. But Taylor was not only hopelessly outnumbered by the Indians but the British battery was riddling his boats, and he retreated with some of his men wounded, one of whom died shortly afterward.

As Tecumseh was perfecting his great confederation in 1810-'11 emissaries came to the Watch Tower to ask the Sauk and Fox to join him. Black Hawk in his autobiography says these delegates said to his people, "If you do not join us, the time will come when the white man will drive you from this village." After this had actually come to pass, Black Hawk wrote—in 1833—"If a prophet had come to our village in those days, and told us that the things were to take place which have since come to pass none of our people would have believed him."

The Black Hawk War and the events immediately preceding were naturally such as appeal to one's sympathies. It is true that according to treaties made with the Sauk and Fox the white man was in the right. It is equally true that the white man, as a rule, paid no attention to the terms of Indian treaties where they involved lands wanted by him. If the white man had taught the Indian that the only rule of right was superior force, he had only himself to thank when Black Hawk chose to measure strength with him in an armed contest. Before resorting to arms, however, he sought other ways of keeping possession of his village, fields and pastures,

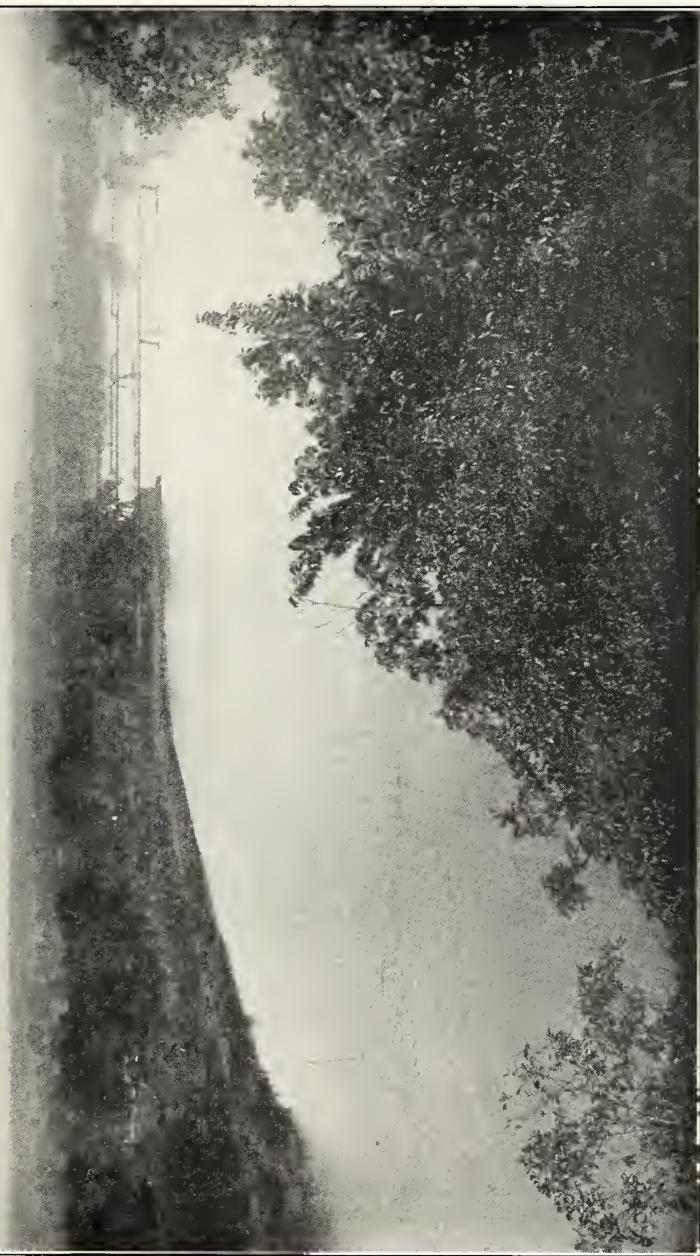
while his rival, Keokuk, led his followers away and set up new homes west of the Mississippi.

Black Hawk in his autobiography tells of various trips made by him to seek the counsel of Indian leaders and prophets; of the British authorities at Fort Malden, Canada; of the Indian agent at Fort Armstrong; of the Indian trader who had his stores near the fort on the island of Rock Island. Meanwhile, being of a deeply religious nature, he says: "I fasted and called upon the Great Spirit to direct my steps to the right path. I was in great sorrow because all the whites with whom I had been on terms of intimacy advised me contrary to my wishes. \* \* Our people were treated very badly by the whites on many occasions."

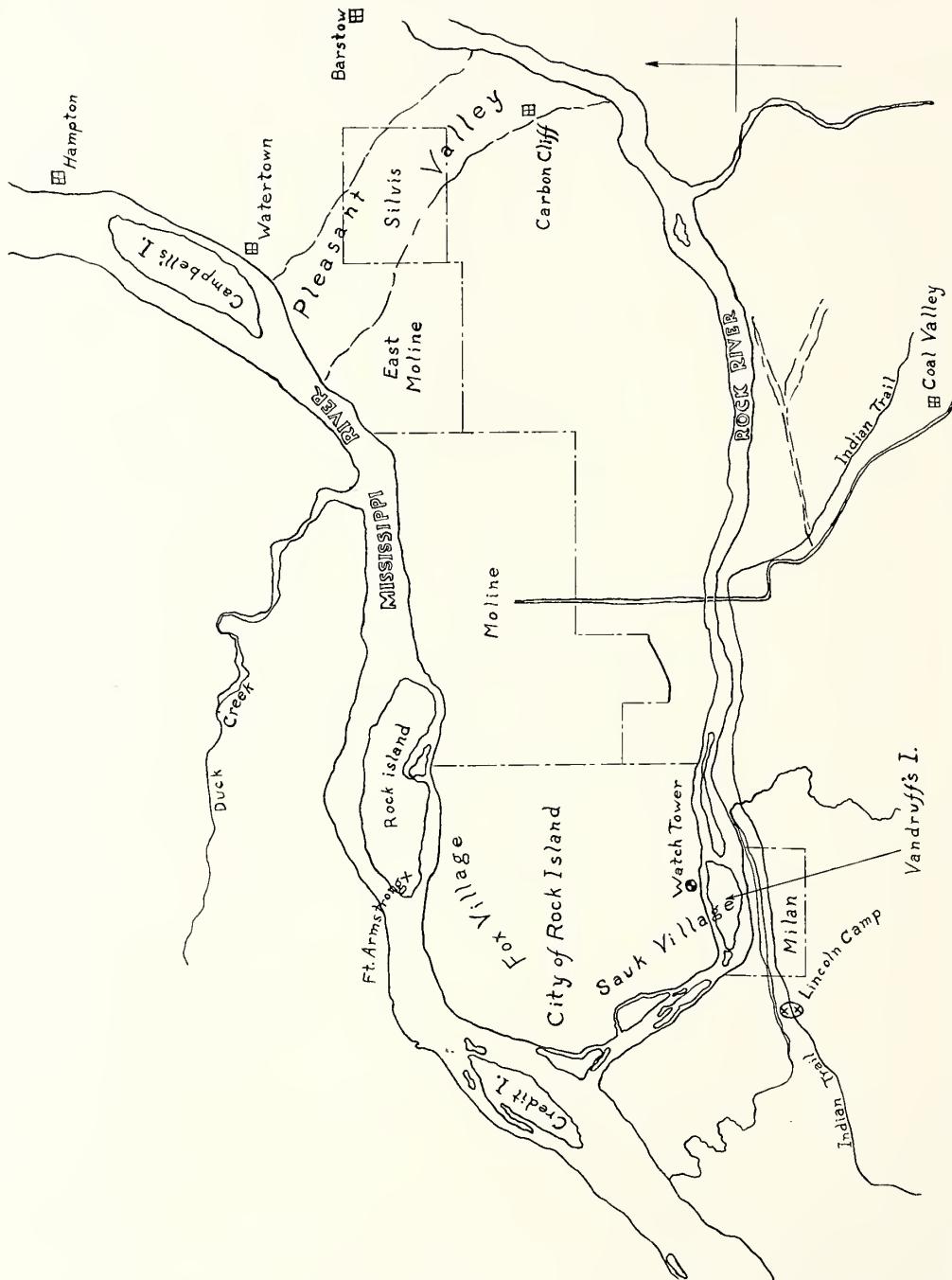
Having ordered the whites to leave his village, Black Hawk was summoned by General Gaines, to appear before him at Fort Armstrong. The War Chief came in answer to this command but brought with him a formidable array of warriors armed to the teeth. He wanted it understood he was talking business. One can see in his Mind's eye, the tenseness of the situation; the soldiers at the Fort manning the blockhouses and guns, ready for instant action should Black Hawk give the signal to his braves, to begin an attack. General Gaines gave the Indians two days in which to quit their village.

Now another kind of appeal was made. Instead of a show of force, a woman, the daughter of one of the chiefs was sent to the island to plead the cause of her people. This was in accordance with directions from the prophet, to whom the plan had been revealed in a dream. What care and concern must have been bestowed in preparing this Indian woman for her part by her tawny complexioned sisters and brethren, when so much that was dear to them depended upon her success with the American army officers. But she, too, failed.

Governor Reynolds on May 26, 1831, called upon the militia for seven hundred men to oust the Indians. He wrote later, that "More than double the number that was called for, volunteered, and though it was the most busy time of the year



VIEW DOWN ROCK RIVER FROM BLACK HAWK'S WATCH TOWER.  
The bluffs at the west side of the Mississippi are dimly visible to the right.



MAP SHOWING LOCATION OF BLACK HAWK WATCH TOWER AND THE TERRITORY  
FOR WHICH THE BLACK HAWK WAR WAS FOUGHT

for the farmers, yet hundreds of them unhitched their horses from the plow, left their cornfields and appeared in the army." With Governor John Reynolds and his staff and many State officials; with Congressman Joseph Duncan (later Governor) in the saddle as Brigadier General in command of the troops, and fourteen hundred mounted men, they made a "grand display" as they marched over the great prairies toward Rock Island. Thomas Ford, afterward Governor, who was one of the volunteers said in his history of Illinois: "This was the largest military force of Illinoisans which had ever been assembled in the State and made an imposing appearance as it traversed the then unbroken wilderness of prairie."

But perhaps more interesting to us of the white race would have been the sight of the Indians, making their escape across the Mississippi. Not prepared for war, fearing massacre at the hands of the undisciplined Militia, they fled to the west side of the great river—in the dead of the night, unobserved either by the regulars at Fort Armstrong or by the militia stationed on the banks of the Mississippi a few miles below Rock River. The whole procedure of Black Hawk's people would have been of deepest interest to us. The runners notifying the population; the departure under cover of darkness, with ponies, dogs, household utensils and food; canoes crowded to the limit with luggage, with young children and the aged and infirm, while down the trails beside Rock River walked or rode those who were strong in body. But most interesting of all would have been the sight of these couple of thousand Indians, more or less, boldly entering the waters of the Mississippi which at this point is about three quarters of a mile in width, and swimming to the far side. Some would hold to a pony as it swam across, and all of them perhaps, in a promiscuous throng of canoes, dogs, ponies and humanity laboring to reach Credit island or possibly the main shore below that Island. The Illinois volunteers feared a night or early morning attack as was the case at Tippecanoe in 1811, and accordingly the "utmost vigilance" was observed, but

even the outposts, listening for the faintest sounds of Indians, failed to hear anything of the movements of Black Hawk's people. Sound carries easily over quiet waters. Can it be possible that the women held their peace; that the children knew they must make no outcry; that even the Braves could restrain their stories of other days of adventure until all were safely over?

In the Movie Theatres of today one sees such great productions as "The Covered Wagon" with its scene of crossing a river. Black Hawk's crossing the Mississippi the night of June 19-20th must have been like it, except that it was on a vastly greater scale.

In ten days time Black Hawk had become reconciled to the thought that he could never again occupy the village of his birth; the home of his ancestors whose bones were now being turned up almost daily by the plows of the white intruders. In a long career as War Chief, he had been an empire-builder. Victory had generally crowned his effort. But those days were past. He appeared at Fort Armstrong, with his head men, June 30th, and "Touched the goosequill" to a treaty in which he promised not to return east of the Mississippi except with permission of the proper U. S. authorities.

But as the months rolled by the counsel of younger men prevailed and it was shown the aged War Chief that a great confederation of tribes could be brought about, so strong, that even the white man could not overcome them, and so, in the spring of the following year, 1832, they returned "well mounted and well armed." Their return caused an alarm nation-wide. The effect of his return on western immigration was felt as far east as Ohio; the States of Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri issued a call to arms, and reinforcements from the regular army to the garrison at Fort Armstrong were sent from Jefferson Barracks, Mo., and from Fortress Monroe, Va., for it was feared that all the tribes of the Upper Mississippi and Great Lakes were about to join in a general war upon the white settlements.

In his autobiography, Black Hawk speaks of the Watch-

Tower which has now become a State park, as follows: "This Tower to which my name has been applied, was a favorite resort, and was frequently visited by me alone, when I could sit and smoke my pipe and look with wonder and pleasure at the grand scenes that were presented by the sun's rays, even across the mighty water."

Today one may stand at the same point of the bluff and see, across Rock River, the place where the 1832 camp of Illinois Volunteers was situated. There it was that Abraham Lincoln as Captain of Illinois militia was sworn into the service of his country and became a Captain in the U. S. volunteer army; his first service as an officer of the United States, and one of the proudest positions, as he said afterwards, that he ever held. Upon this point too, the year previous was stationed a battery of the U. S. Regulars from Fort Armstrong, which cannonaded the island immediately in front of the Watch Tower, while the Illinois volunteers in battle array were coming across the same island, believing Black Hawk to be in ambush there; another battery meanwhile sending grape and cannister from the deck of a steamboat anchored where the bridges are, a little way below the Watch Tower.

At the foot of the Tower were the rapids of Rock River, which gave the Regulars much difficulty in 1832, in getting the great barge-loads of military supplies over them, as they pushed up Rock River in pursuit of Black Hawk. With these Regulars were such national characters as Zachary Taylor, afterward president; Jefferson Davis, later of the Confederacy; Robert Anderson of Fort Sumpter fame; Albert Sydney Johnson, who became the great southern general, killed in battle at Shiloh. Later in the season came General Winfield Scott, and Joseph E. Johnston, the latter one of the great southern leaders who resisted Sherman on his march to the sea. Here, to these grounds came Governors Reynolds, Ford, Duncan, Carlin and Wood. Here came U. S. Senators Semple, Richardson, Baker, Breese and Browning, while others who served in the contest for possession of these grounds had well known surnames, such as Capt. Levi D.

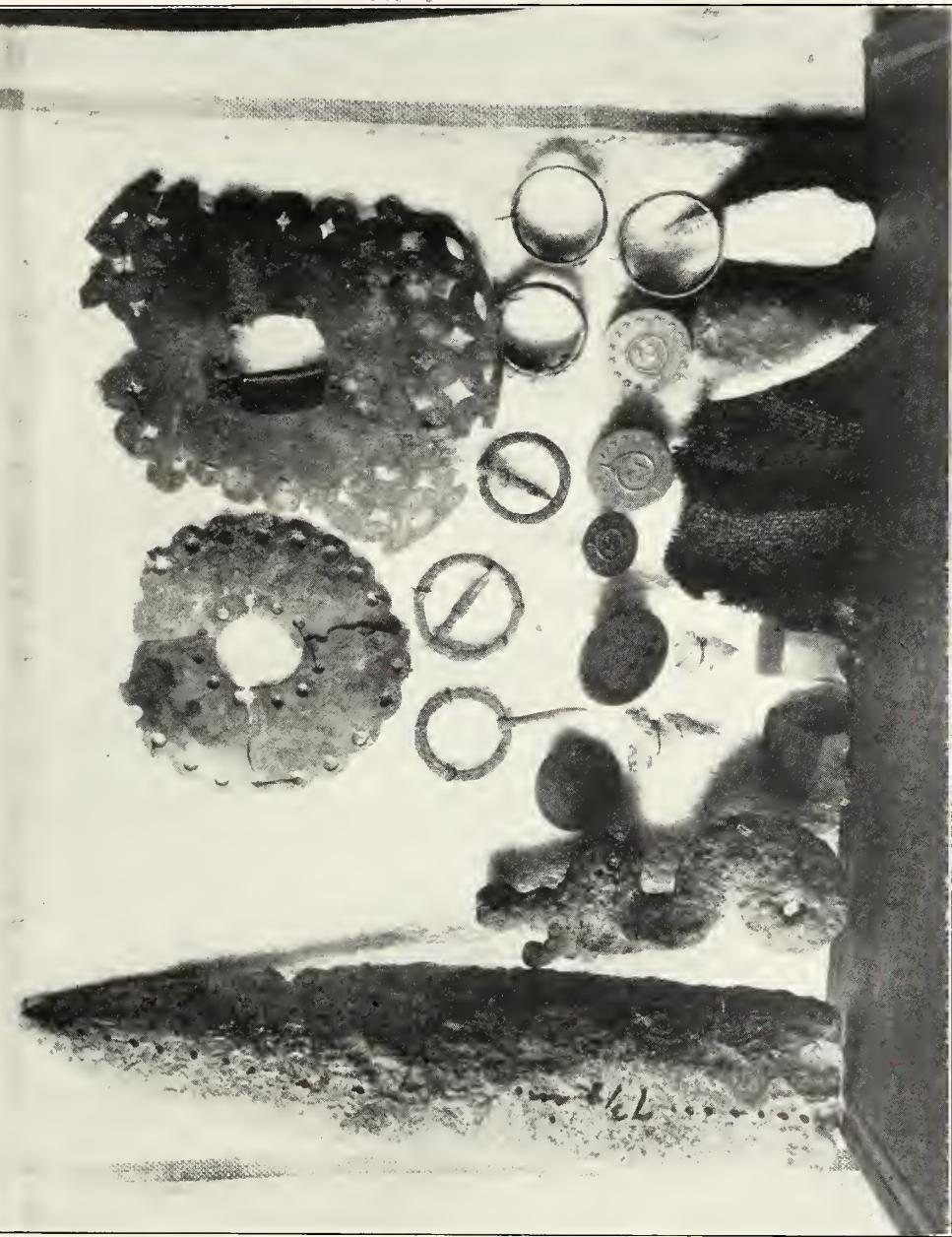
Boone, son of the famous Daniel Boone of Kentucky; William S. Hamilton, son of the great Alexander Hamilton of Revolutionary period fame; Governor Dodge of Michigan, and many another whose name was placed high on the roll of honor.

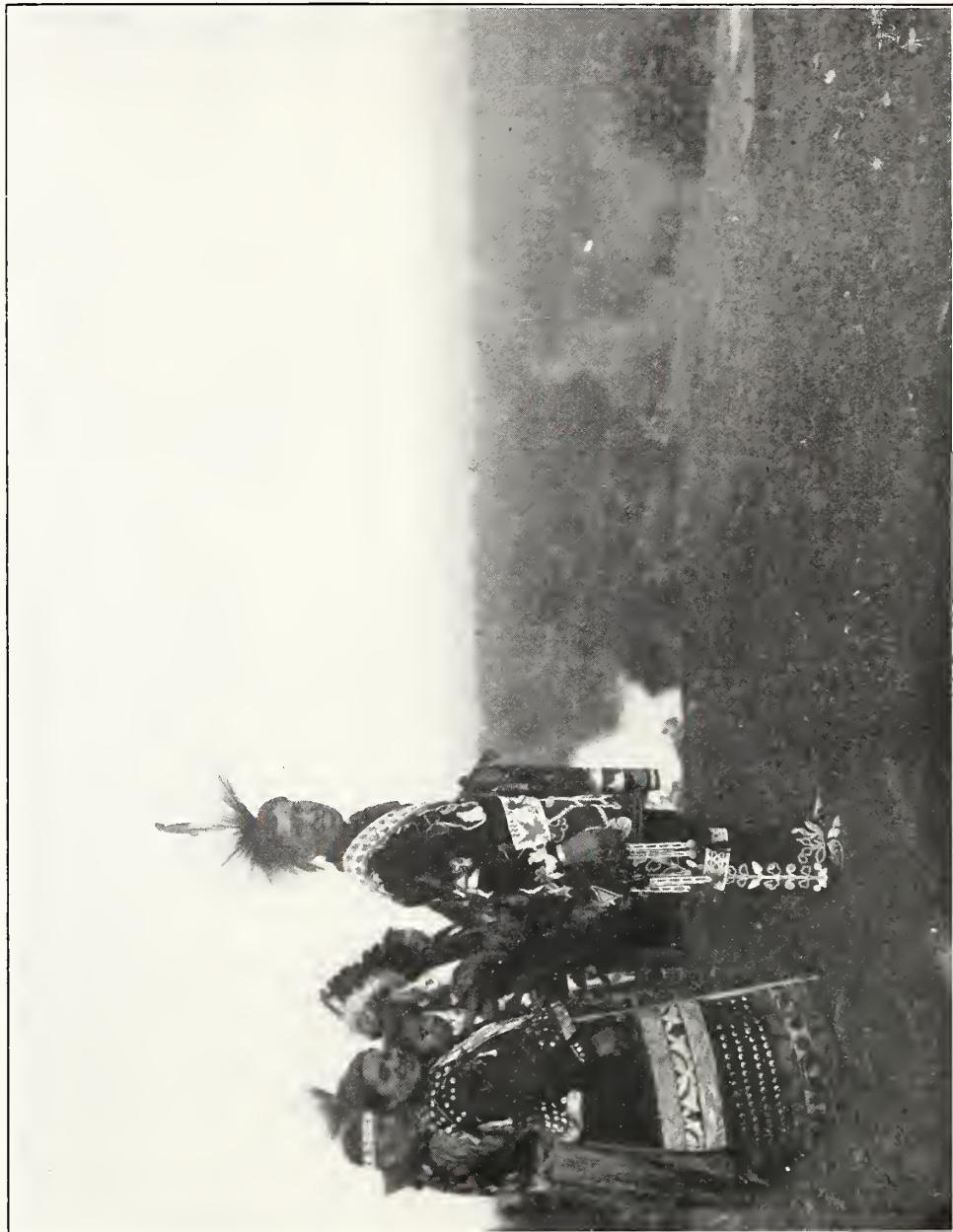
For a few sections of land, of which Black Hawk's Watch Tower was the heart and choicest scenic spot, one hundred fifty of the citizens of Illinois, and of the Regular army, gave up their lives in battle. Two hundred fifty others, of the Regular army, died during the campaign, of cholera. All the usual inhumanities of war were practiced. Massacres and counter massacres, regardless of age or sex, were indulged in by both sides to the conflict.

After his release as a prisoner of war at Fortress Monroe, Va., Black Hawk returned and dictated to J. B. Patterson, the story of his life, with Antoine LeClaire, Indian interpreter at Fort Armstrong, giving the interpretation of his Saukie tongue. From this personal account we gain some idea of what was suffered by the Indians in token of their love for this bit of favored country, as follows: "During our encampment at the Four Lakes (about Madison, Wis.) we were hard pressed to obtain enough to eat to support nature. Situated in a swampy, marshy country, which had been selected in consequence of the great difficulty required to gain access thereto, there was but little game of any sort to be found, and fish were equally scarce. \* \* \* We were forced to dig roots and bark trees to obtain something to satisfy hunger and keep us alive. Several of our old people became so reduced as to actually die with hunger. Learning that the army had commenced moving, and fearing that they might come upon and surround our encampment I concluded to remove our women and children across the Mississippi that they might return to the Sac nation again. \* \* \* We had commenced crossing the Wisconsin when we discovered a large body of the enemy coming towards us. We were now compelled to fight or sacrifice our wives and children to the fury of the whites. I met them with fifty warriors, having left the balance to assist our women and children in crossing,

RELIICS FROM BLACK HAWK'S VILLAGE SITE.

Brooches, buckles, finger rings, piece of black cloth, arrow-heads, gun flints, and hammer from flintlock gun. Three of the buttons are of the description of those to be used by the U. S. Rifle Regiment, as per General Orders, March 11, 1814, viz: "flat yellow buttons which shall exhibit a bugle surrounded by stars, with the number of the regiment within the curve of the bugle." These reliques are in possession of the Rock Island County Historical Society.





SAUK AND FOX INDIANS AT THE WATCH TOWER, WITH THE GREAT-GRANDSON OF  
BLACK HAWK, JESSE KAKA-QUE, AT THEIR HEAD.

about a mile from the river, on a fine horse, and was pleased to see my warriors so brave. \* \* \* I addressed them in a loud voice, telling them to stand their ground and never yield it to the enemy.” \* \* \*

“In this skirmish, with fifty braves I defended and accomplished my passage over the Wisconsin with a loss of only six men, though opposed by a host of mounted militia. I would not have fought there, but to gain time for our women and children to cross to an island. A warrior will duly appreciate the embarrassment I labored under—and whatever may be the sentiment of the white people in relation to this battle, my nation, though fallen, will award to me the reputation of a great brave in conducting it.”

“Here some of my people left me and descended the Wisconsin. But few of this party escaped. Soldiers from Prairie du Chien were stationed near the mouth of the Wisconsin, who fired on our distressed people. Some were killed, others drowned, several taken prisoners, and the balance escaped to the woods and perished with hunger.”

“Early in the morning, August 2, a party of whites, being in advance of the army, came upon our people, who were attempting to cross the Mississippi. They tried to give themselves up; the whites paid no attention to their entreaties, but commenced slaughtering them. In a little while the whole army arrived. Our braves, but few in number, finding that the enemy paid no regard to age or sex, and seeing that they were murdering helpless women and little children, determined to fight until they were killed. As many women as could, commenced swimming the Mississippi with their children on their backs; a number of them were drowned and some shot before they could reach the opposite shore.”

On the 27th of August, 1832, at Prairie du Chien, the defeated Black Hawk was delivered to General Street, by some Winnebagoes. Having been with them for some days he had again experienced the satisfaction of having a plenty of food, and the Winnebago squaws had replaced his tattered garments with a new white dress of deer skin. Again the fires

of patriotism burned in his breast as he gave utterance to the following oration, addressed to the white general, as follows:

"You have taken me prisoner with all my warriors, I am much grieved, for I expected, if I did not defeat you, to hold out much longer, and give you more trouble before I surrendered. I tried hard to bring you into ambush, but your last general understands Indian fighting. The first one was not so wise. When I saw that I could not beat you by Indian fighting, I determined to rush on you and fight you face to face. I fought hard. But your guns were well aimed. The bullets flew like birds in the air, and whizzed by our ears like the wind through the trees in the winter. My warriors fell around me; it began to look dismal. I saw my evil day at hand. The sun rose dim on us in the morning and at night it sunk in a dark cloud and looked like a ball of fire. That was the last sun that shone on Black Hawk. His heart is dead and no longer beats quick in his bosom. He is now a prisoner to the white men; they will do with him as they wish. But he can stand torture, and is not afraid of death. He is no coward. Black Hawk is an Indian."

He has done nothing for which an Indian ought to be ashamed. He has fought for his countrymen, the squaws and papooses, against white men, who came, year after year, to cheat them and take away their lands. You know the cause of our making war. It is known to all white men. They ought to be ashamed of it. The white men despise the Indians and drive them from their homes. But the Indians are not deceitful. The white men speak bad of the Indian, and look at him spitefully. But the Indian does not tell lies; Indians do not steal.

An Indian who is as bad as the white men could not live in our nation; he would be put to death, and eat up by the wolves. The white men are bad schoolmasters; they carry false books, and deal in false actions; they smile in the face of the poor Indian to cheat him; they shake them by the hand to gain their confidence, to make them drunk, to deceive them, and ruin our wives. We told them to let us alone, and keep

away from us; but they followed on, and beset our paths, and they coiled themselves among us, like the snake. They poisoned us by their touch. We were not safe. We lived in danger. We were becoming like them, hypocrites and liars, adulterers, lazy drones, all talkers and no workers.

We looked up to the Great Spirit. We went to our great father. We were encouraged. His great council gave us fair words and big promises; but we got no satisfaction. Things were growing worse. There were no deer in the forest. The opossum and beaver were fled; the springs were drying up, and our squaws and papooses without victuals to keep them from starving. We called a great council, and built a large fire. The spirit of our fathers arose and spoke to us to avenge our wrongs or die. We all spoke before the council fire. It was warm and pleasant. We set up the warwhoop and dug up the tomahawk; our knives were ready, and the heart of Black Hawk swelled high in his bosom when he led his warriors to battle. He is satisfied. He will go to the world of spirits contented. He has done his duty. His father will meet him there and commend him.

"Black Hawk is a true Indian, and disdains to cry like a woman. He feels for his wife, his children and friends. But he does not care for himself. He cares for his nation, and the Indians. They will suffer. He laments their fate. The white men do not scalp the head; but they do worse—they poison the heart; it is not pure with them. His countrymen will not be scalped, but they will, in a few years, become like the white men, so that you can't trust them, and there must be, as in the white settlements, nearly as many officers as men to take care of them and keep them in order.

"Farewell, my nation! Black Hawk tried to save you, and avenge your wrongs. He drank the blood of some of the whites. He has been taken prisoner, and his plans are stopped. He can do no more. He is near his end. His sun is setting, and will rise no more. Farewell to Black Hawk!"

The writer has visited the descendants of Black Hawk in the States of Kansas and Oklahoma. They are worthy people

of their race, worthy descendants of one who fought for the rights of his people. A grandson of Black Hawk, born at the Watch Tower village in the days before the Black Hawk war, was taken by the writer to the Watch Tower. He was an aged man, said to be above eighty years of age at the time of his visit. He said little, and at the point of the Tower he was heard to say but a single word as he surveyed the scenes before him. It was the one word "Sinissippi"—the Sauk word for Rock River. His heart seemed to have been touched. He knew what their love for this stream had cost his people.

It is a happy thought that now, with Black Hawk Watch Tower as a State park, it becomes the property of us all. No private owner may put up the "Keep-out" sign. Doubtless the grounds will again resound with the laughter and chatter of the Sauk and Fox tongue as descendants of those fierce warriors of old come to see the lands held by them during the period of their national Golden Age. In fact a number of them have already at different times, revisited the place.

A throng of descendants of those brave men who responded to the call of Governor Reynolds in 1831 and '32 will likewise be attracted to this spot. Here they will contemplate the stirring times when their ancestors left their plows, workshops and places of business to join in combat with an enemy noted for his fighting qualities.

Here is a place suited for the joining of hands of the White man and the Red as each recounts the treasure which was thrown into the conflict between them; the suffering endured, and the loss of those brave souls who gave the last full measure of devotion.

Fortunately these historic grounds were kept intact by a quasi-public corporation—the Tri-City Railway Company which retained them for the fares they would collect from the thousands per year who visited this place of natural beauty. But the day of the automobile came and very few rode the trolley cars. The grounds ceased to be profitable and were offered for sale. Real estate men saw an opportunity for profit, but the stockholders of the Railway Company preferred

to sell to the State in order that the Watch Tower might be preserved for all time instead of being cut up into residence lots. It will ever be to the credit of His Excellency Governor Len Small, and to the members of the Senate and those of the House of Representatives that they had the vision to preserve the Watch Tower to a grateful people, and to all posterity.

## ROCK RIVER AND ITS CROSSINGS.

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By EDWARD E. WINGERT.

The original location and the subsequent growth and prosperity of most cities is largely determined by the presence of a river or other body of water. In some cases the matter of water transportation is an important factor, while in others beauty and sanitation have their influence. Again, as in the case of the City of Dixon, the mere problem of crossing a stream intercepting a route of land travel has demanded the presence of a settled population to facilitate such crossing. The stream is first an obstacle to traffic which when overcome is logically followed by the placing of dams in the stream itself to secure water power, and thus add to the growth of the settlement.

Dixon's location was not a fortuitous matter. It was a logical growth arising out of somewhat primitive conditions. It was determined primarily by the necessity of a feasible point of crossing Rock river for the convenience of land traffic from the south and central portions of the state to the lead mines at Galena. While these mines had been known and worked as early as the latter half of the 17th century it was not until the year 1819 that general attention was attracted to them and a great influx of searchers after wealth ensued. Rock river, known to the Indians as the Sinnissippi, and to the early French Voyageurs as the Riviere du Rocher, was early frequented by trappers and traders, who voyaged by canoes and the aborigines for many years had used the site of Dixon's Ferry as a convenient point of crossing this large stream.

It was inevitable that traffic would be developed early to accommodate this early tide of travel northward from the settlements at the south and through the uninhabited north-

# LINCOLN LORE

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FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

August 25, 1930

## LINCOLN LORE

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ENDOWED BY  
THE LINCOLN  
NATIONAL LIFE  
INSURANCE  
COMPANY

Dr. Louis A. Warren . . . . . Editor

### LINCOLN THE SOLDIER

At the age of twenty-three Abraham Lincoln enlisted as a volunteer in the Black Hawk War. By virtue of his office at the time of his assassination he was Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the Republic.

His first military experience in after years he viewed as a joke but the serious task confronting him in the Civil War was the most severe military task that an American has ever faced. Lincoln's early experience as a soldier offers an approach similar to those already made in these columns which have presented him as postmaster, flatboatman and railsplitter.

In 1838 he prepared some data for the Dictionary of Congress. One of the six brief sentences in the sketch was as follows:

"Have been a captain of volunteers in the Black Hawk War."

The following year he was asked for some biographical information by J. W. Fell. In the article he forwarded this paragraph appears.

"Then came the Black Hawk War and I was elected captain of volunteers, a success which gave me more pleasure than any which I have had since."

After his nomination for the presidency he was solicited by John L. Scripps to prepare a more complete biographical sketch and the reference he made to his military activities follows:

"Abraham joined a volunteer company and to his own surprise was elected captain of it. He says he has not since had any success in life which gave him so much satisfaction. He went to the campaign, served near three months, met the ordinary hardships of such an expedition but was in no battles. He now owns in Iowa the land upon which his own warrants for the service were located."

The most ludicrous account which Lincoln gives of his service in the Black Hawk War is found in a speech which he made before the United States House of Representatives on

July 27, 1848. He had occasion to speak on "General Taylor and the Veto" and in conclusion commented on the availability of General Cass for the presidency. Here he had an opportunity to compare his own military service in the Black Hawk War with that of General Cass.

"By the way, Mr. Speaker, did you know that I am a military hero? Yes, sir, in the days of the Black Hawk War I fought, bled, and came away. Speaking of General Cass' career reminds me of my own. I was not at Stillman's defeat but I was about as near it as Cass was to Hull's surrender and like him, I saw the place very soon afterwards. It is quite certain I did not break my sword for I had none to break but I bent a musket pretty badly on one occasion. If Cass broke his sword the idea is he broke it in desperation. I bent the musket by accident. If General Cass went in advance of me in picking huckleberries I guess I surpassed him in charges upon the wild onions. He, if he saw any live fighting Indians, it was more than I did but I made a good many bloody struggles with the mosquitoes and although I never fainted from the loss of blood I can truly say I was often very hungry. Mr. Speaker, if I should ever conclude to doff whatever our Democratic friends may suppose there is of black-cockade federalism about me and therefore they shall take me up as their candidate for the presidency, I protest they shall not make fun of me as they have of General Cass by attempting to write me into a military hero."

A proclamation was issued by Governor Reynolds, of Illinois, calling upon the state troops to rendezvous at Beardstown on April 22, 1832. The day before this Lincoln's confirmation as captain of his company was recorded. Jack Armstrong, his competitor in the famous wrestling match was made his first sergeant. The company became a part of the Fourth Regiment of mounted volunteers in General Whiteside's brigade.

At the expiration of the enlistment period, which occurred while they were in camp at Ottawa, opportunity was given the members of Lincoln's company to re-enlist in other units. Lincoln's name appears on the roll as of May 25, 1832, as a private in Captain Alexander White's company. The following day, however, his name was placed on the muster roll of Captain Elijah Iles' Company and for twenty days he served with this group.

Lincoln again re-enlisted this time in the company of Captain Jacob Earley and was finally mustered out at a point which is now White Water, Wisconsin, on July 10, 1832. This con-

cluded Lincoln's military experiences until he took up the more serious task of directing the armies of the Union.

It is interesting to note that among Lincoln's superior officers in this military venture were Colonel Zachary Taylor, Lieutenant Albert Sidney Johnston, Lieutenant Jefferson Davis, and Lieutenant Robert Anderson.

A large number of Lincoln's political associates in later years also served in this skirmish with the Indians.

Many different stories have been circulated about Lincoln's experiences during these months as a soldier but few of them seem to bear the impress of truth. Tales of his many contests with wrestling champions of other camps, accounts of his violating orders and failing to keep his men under the proper discipline, coming to the rescue of an old Indian who strayed into camp, etc., are but a few of the many traditions which have been featured.

Lincoln apparently remembered one scene quite vividly associated with the campaign. He helped to bury five men who had been massacred by the Indians. His reminiscence of this experience is reported as follows:

"I remember just how those men looked as we rode up to the little hill where their camp was. The red light of the morning sun was streaming upon them as they lay heads towards us on the ground. And every man had a round, red spot on the top of his head, about as big as a dollar where the redskins had taken his scalp. It was frightful, but it was grotesque, and the red sunlight seemed to paint everything all over. I remember that one man had on buckskin breeches."

Lincoln's early military experience is soon to be memorialized at Dixon, Illinois, by the erection of a heroic bronze statue. It will occupy a site where the old Dixon blockhouse stood, and where one of Lincoln's reinventions took place. The sculptor who has done this new Lincoln is Leonard Crunelle. He recently prepared for Freeport, Illinois, a study of Lincoln the Debator. This more recent effort portrays Lincoln at the age of twenty-three years and will visualize Lincoln the Soldier.

Note:—We are having constant appeals from libraries in different parts of the United States for back numbers of Lincoln Lore to complete their files. The greatest need seems to be for the issues up to number twenty-one but especially those preceding number ten. We should be glad to supply these issues if those who do not care to keep their back numbers will forward them to the editor.



# LINCOLN LORE

No. 158

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## LINCOLN LORE

BULLETIN OF  
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Dr. Louis A. Warren - - - Editor

### CAPTAIN ABRAHAM LINCOLN

One hundred years ago this week, on April 21, Abraham Lincoln was elected Captain of a military company which had volunteered for service in the Black Hawk War.

In a public announcement prepared less than two months before his enlistment in the militia he had said that he had "no ambition so great as that of being truly esteemed by my fellow-men by rendering myself worthy of that esteem."

Lincoln could not have surmised that he was so soon to be the recipient of a favor which would demonstrate the esteem in which he was already held by his associates. Twenty-five years later in referring to this honor bestowed upon him by these volunteers he said, "It was a success which gave me more pleasure than any which I have had since."

The office of Commander in Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic gave to Lincoln the highest military rank available to an American citizen. This fact should make the centennial anniversary of his first military experience of some significance.

The name—Lincoln—is not unfamiliar in the annals of military achievement in America. The most illustrious of the Lincolns who fought in the Revolutionary War was Benjamin Lincoln, a member of the famous Lincoln colony at Hingham, Massachusetts, from which Abraham Lincoln descended.

General Lincoln was given the chief command of the southern department of the army, and was later delegated by Washington to receive the sword of General Cornwallis at the time of his surrender.

Another one of the many Hingham Lincolns who engaged in the Revolutionary War was Captain Amos Lincoln who married the daughter of Paul Revere.

The grandfather of Abraham Lincoln for whom the president was named was elected Captain of one of the three military companies in Rockingham County, Virginia, at the time of the Revolution, and his name is

often found on the county records as having served as Adjutant General.

While the President's grandfather did not lose his life in a battle with Red-coats, he was one of the many Revolutionary soldiers who later were massacred by the Indians on the frontiers. Abraham Lincoln said that among all the stories of his youth the one that remained most vivid in his memory was the massacre of his grandfather.

Hananiah Lincoln who went to Kentucky with the pioneer Lincolns was also a Captain in the Revolutionary War. It was with this Hananiah Lincoln that the father of the President made his home for some time after the massacre of his own father.

Abraham Lincoln's father, Thomas Lincoln, saw service against the Indians in Kentucky as a member of the Fourth Regiment of Militia in which he enlisted in 1795. He served as a private under Lieutenant George Ewing, and later was under the command of Lieutenant Philip Washburn.

On Patriots Day, April 19, 1832, the following postscript appeared in the Sangamon Journal:

"More Indian trouble. Last evening General T. M. Neale received by express the annexed order from the Commander in Chief. From this order it appears that the Governor is determined at once to drive Black Hawk and his associates from the limits of our state. There could be no object in parleying any further with him or his gang. Summary and spirited measures must be used or our citizens will be subjected yearly to the incursions of this Indian tribe. . . .

"To General T. M. Neale: 'You are hereby commanded to cause 600 men of your Brigade to meet at Beardstown on the 22nd inst. without fail. I have ordered the Colonels of your Brigade to furnish their proportionate men out of their respective regiments, for fear you might not be at home. You will call the Militia to the nearest rendezvous, each company to be composed of 50 men and to elect its own officers.'

When Lincoln read this appeal for volunteers in the paper he enlisted immediately. He must have recalled the story of his own grandfather's massacre and the service which his father saw against the Indians.

The day before the rendezvous of the troops at Beardstown, Abraham Lincoln was elected Captain of his company. While he saw no active fighting, there is some indication that he was worthy of the office to which he had been elected.

The one tradition that comes down to us as to Lincoln's behavior while following the enemy is from the old guide, Father Dixon, who accompanied

the troops. He concludes, "In all the marches, whenever the forces approached a grove or depression in which an Indian ambush might be concealed, and scouts were sent forward to examine the cover, Lincoln was the first man selected," and he adds that "while many, as they approached the place of expected ambush, found an excuse for dismounting to adjust girths or saddles, Lincoln's saddle was always in perfect order."

It is very appropriate that there recently has been erected at Dixon, Illinois a statue by Leonard Crunnelle portraying Captain Abraham Lincoln.

In the light of subsequent events the most interesting contact which Lincoln made during the Black Hawk war was with Major Robert Anderson. When Major Anderson visited Washington after his evacuation of Fort Sumpter and had received from the chief magistrate an expression of appreciation of his conduct, Mr. Lincoln said:

"Major, do you remember of ever meeting me before?" "No," replied Anderson, "I have no recollection of ever having had that pleasure." "My memory is better than yours," said Lincoln. "You mustered me into the United States service, as a high private of the Illinois volunteers, at Dixon's Ferry, in the Black Hawk War."

Both Captain Lincoln and his superior officer, General T. M. Neale, were candidates for the legislature in 1832, but the captain polled 86 more votes than the General. Both failed to be elected, however.

Another candidate for representative at this election was William Kirkpatrick who had been Lincoln's opponent for the captaincy of the company. He received another beating at the polls by Lincoln who gathered in 657 votes against Kirkpatrick's 44. It is significant to note on Captain Lincoln's muster roll that Kirkpatrick whom he had beaten was recommended for promotion from the ranks by Captain Lincoln.

In Lincoln's company were: Jack Armstrong, the wrestler, whom Lincoln made a sergeant; William F. Berry, who was later to be associated with Lincoln in the merchandise business; John M. and David Rutledge, brothers of Ann Rutledge, Lincoln's sweetheart; and one of the Trent brothers for whom Lincoln tried his first lawsuit.

There were 68 men altogether listed on Captain Lincoln's muster roll, of which copies are still available. In Lincoln's own handwriting is the following notation, "Mustered out of service at the Mouth of Fox River, May 27, 1832."

8-91

## *Side Swipes*

*By CHI GAMBLE.*

RALPH C. LOWES calls our attention to the fact that Abraham Lincoln made his first visit to Peoria exactly one hundred years ago—and Mr. Lowes, who has been a student of Lincoln for many years, inquires if there is not some way in which the community can take cognizance of this anniversary. He says:

"The Black Hawk war broke out in the northwestern part of the state in the spring of 1832 and the governor of the state (Gov. Reynolds), called for a small force of mounted volunteers for a short-term enlistment. Lincoln responded promptly and was elected captain, by the members of the company.

"The small army followed the Indian chief through northern Illinois. Lincoln's term of enlistment expired twice, but on each occasion he re-enlisted. On the last days of July the decisive battle of the Bad Axe was fought, and finally when the company disbanded at Whitewater, Wisconsin, Lincoln started back for his old home in New Salem, in company with Major Stewart, who had enlisted from Springfield, Ill. Lincoln having lost his horse near where the town of Janesville, Wisconsin, now stands, he and his companion went down the Rock river to Dixon in a canoe. From Dixon they walked to Peoria. At Peoria, they purchased a canoe and paddled their way together to Havana and then started out on foot to cover the remainder of their journey. Lincoln walked to New Salem and Stewart continued to Springfield.

"It seems to me that we ought hardly let an event of this kind pass by unnoticed, when this is the centennial year of its occurrence.

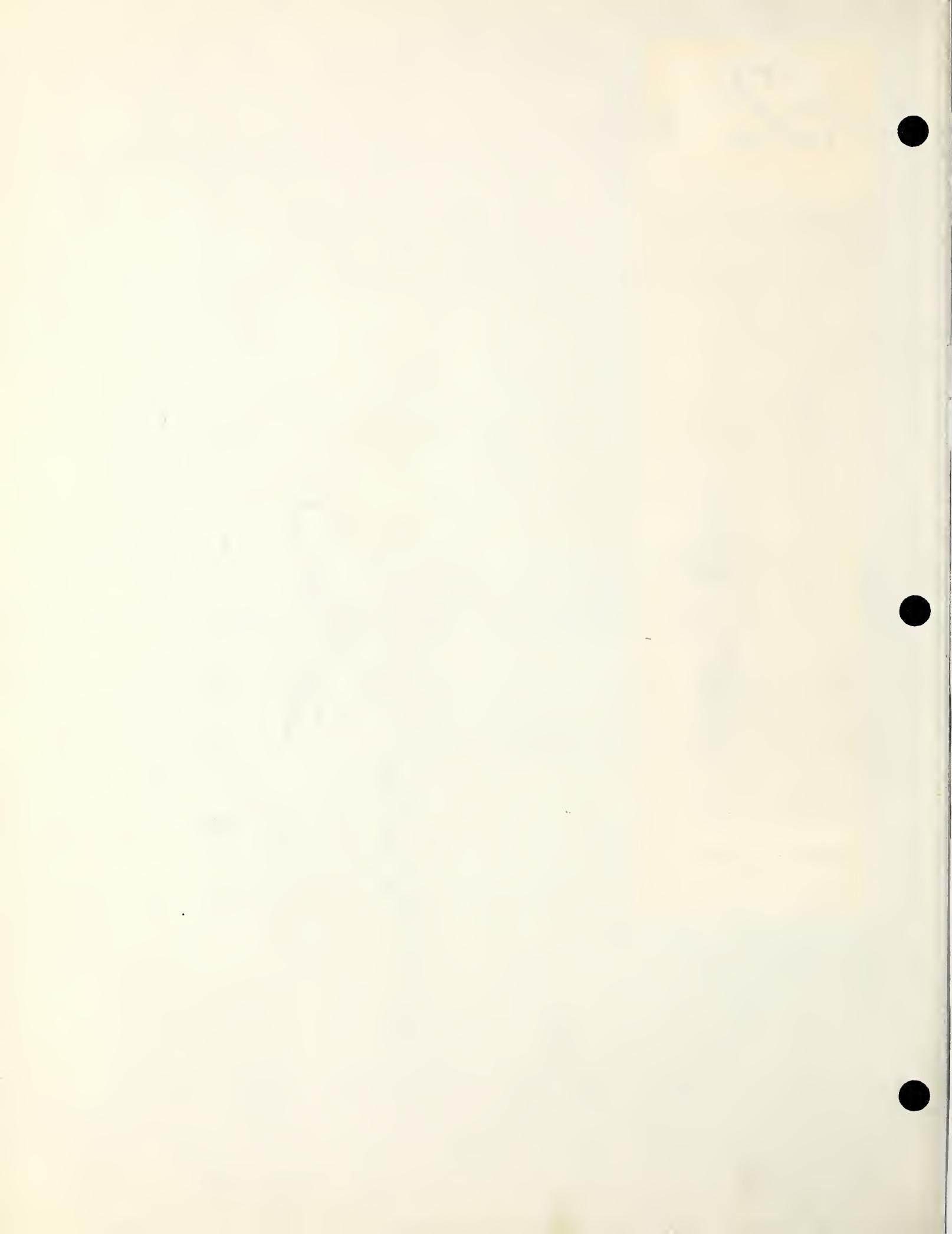
"Yours very truly,

RALPH C. LOWES."

\* \* \*

AND THE SAME correspondent calls attention to the fact that the book, "Abraham Lincoln in Peoria, Illinois," written by the late B. C. Bryner, (and published by E. J. Jacob) tells on page 246 the story of Lincoln's first visit to our city.

The Peoria  
Star  
9/28/32



## WHEN THREE PRESIDENTS MET AT DANCE

*For Aug 1st issue 1-11-33*

In digging into the musty records of the past for new facts about Abraham Lincoln to be utilized in the Rickett-Lincoln film Dr. Gilbert Ellis Bailey, of the University of Southern California, historian of the company, unearthed this remarkable story:

During the Black Hawk War the northern part of Illinois was for the most part a wilderness except for a few trading posts and the lead mines around Galena. In 1827 a road was opened up from Peoria to Galena known as the "Kellogg Trail."

Pierre Bullona, a French trader, built a very large double log cabin on this road. Bullona's squaw was a relative of one of the famous Chief Shaubena's wives. The trader's pretty daughter was to be married to another French trader and a party of his countrymen and half-breeds gathered at the Bullona place for a dance in honor of the event.

While they were dancing a party of Army officers rode up and asked to stay over night. They were Col. Zachary Taylor, afterward President; Capt. Abraham Lincoln, and Lieut. Jefferson Davis, future President of the Confederacy, the latter fresh from West Point; and several others. Jefferson Davis was a fine dancer, but he danced too often with one of the fair maids. A jealous lover drew a knife and threatened Davis who drew a pistol to protect himself. Lincoln sprang between them and held them apart with his long arms until Col. Taylor could restore peace.



# Historian Reveals Lincoln Mustered in Four Times

Former Representative Cyrenus Cole, of Iowa, Claims  
New Facts About Emancipator Disclosed in Study  
of Early Records of War Department.

Washington Sat 7-17-33

By Harris Hull.

Is there anything about Abraham Lincoln that has not been told?

Former Representative Cyrenus Cole, of Iowa, veteran legislator and member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, who retired voluntarily from Congress last March, thinks he has found something about the Great Emancipator that has escaped the historians and biographers.



Cyrenus Cole.

Mr. Cole is credited with three enlistments in that war, but while delving into the papers locked up in the War Department Mr. Cole found another enlistment.

A newspaper man by profession, Mr. Cole has spent his spare time in historical research. He is the author of "A History of the People of Iowa," and has written extensively on the Indian history of the Mississippi Valley, on which subject he is a recognized authority.

"I have remained in Washington," he said yesterday at the Wardman Park Hotel, where he makes his Washington home, "to do something for an Indian, and that Indian is Black Hawk, the most dramatic and glamorous fighter in the upper Mississippi country. At a time when biographies occupy the literary stage, the story of an American Indian who played a part that made him a national theme, ought not to be amiss, and more worthwhile than some of the decayed personalities that have been resurrected out of European cemeteries."

## Filled With Heroes.

Mr. Cole called attention to the fact that the Lincoln was not the only great American who took part in the Black Hawk War.

"The roster of that war," said Mr. Cole, "literally glows with great names. President Andrew Jackson, who made his fame as an Indian fighter, summoned Black Hawk to the White House, and learned to admire him. Gen. Winfield Scott was the final commander in the war. Zachary Taylor, who became President, served as a colonel of the regulars. Jefferson Davis, the future President of the Confederate States, was a lieutenant and had charge of Black Hawk as a prisoner of war. Albert Sidney Johnson, one of the greatest of the Confederate generals; Robert Anderson, of Fort Sumter fame, and Phil Kearney and William S. Harney, all great American soldiers in

colorful little war that the Indian Black Hawk made."

Mr. Cole believes that the Black Hawk War is one of the most picturesque and significant episodes in the making of America. The founding of Chicago followed in its wake and the development of Illinois and the opening of Wisconsin and Iowa were made possible through the results of that war.

In regard to the Lincoln muster roll Mr. Cole had this to say:

"Lincoln served in three companies. He was one of the volunteers from New Salem, Ill., where he was then living. He was only 23 years of age. His wrestling bouts and story-telling proclivities had given him enough local fame to be elected captain of the company of 70 mounted men. He said afterward that he enlisted through no particular feelings of patriotism, but that at that time he had nothing else to do. When this company was mustered out, he re-enlisted as a private in the company of Capt. Elijah Iles, and later as a private in the company of Jacob M. Early, which was a scouting company. In all three he served less than four months.

## Explains Surprise.

"In delving into the files of the War Department, I found the surprise of a fourth muster roll on which Lincoln's name appears. The company was under Capt. Alexander White. It was mustered in on May 26, 1832, and mustered out on June 15 following. On this the name appears as 'Abraham Lincoln' On the others it is simply 'A. Lincoln.' The volunteers furnished their own equipment. Lincoln stands credited with \$30 for arms and equipment and \$70 for a 'brown horse.' But Lincoln can not have served long in this company, for from May 27 to June 16 he was with Capt. Iles' company. The explanation probably is that he enlisted in White's company on June 26 and on the following day was transferred to Iles' company, without his name being erased from White's company roster."

Mr. Cole brought out that the Black Hawk War was the political stock in trade of office seekers for a whole generation. In its magic name those who served in it were elected to offices from United States senators down to constables of townships. "The politicians had all fought, bled and almost died in that war," the historian stated.

"Lincoln, who attained the highest office, never made capital out of his services. On the contrary, he was more in the habit of belittling what he did for his country when he fought against Black Hawk. When he was a member of Congress in 1848, and Zachary Taylor and Lewis Cass were contending for the Presidency, he made a somewhat famous, or, at least, characteristic

porters were posing Cass as a hero of the War of 1812, in which Black Hawk as well as Tecumseh wore the red coats of British officers."

"Lincoln in his speech ridiculed this heroic talk. He made the House laugh by referring to himself in a mock manner as a 'military hero.' He said if he was ever faint from the loss of blood, as Cass posed, it was due to mosquitoes and not to Indians.

## War Record Advantage.

"But Lincoln in that speech may have underestimated the influence of the Black Hawk war on himself. He must have come out of it with a great deal of knowledge about volunteer soldiers, knowledge that stood him in good stead when he became commander in chief of the great volunteer armies of the Civil War. The fact that he often knew more than his generals about such matters may be due to his own experience in the Black Hawk war. That experience must be considered in any study of what have been called his 'prairie years.'

Mr. Cole is taking his Black Hawk manuscript back to Iowa with him. An historian who covers his subject with great brevity, he will write the entire history in one volume of about 300 pages.

Before putting the final touches on the story he expects to revisit many of the historic scenes of the war, down the Iowa River and up the Mississippi and the Rock Rivers, and thence back across the Wisconsin to the Mississippi, on the banks of which the final tragedy of extermination was enacted.

"It's all historic ground," said Mr. Cole, "and the glamour of Black Hawk's patriotic struggle to hold the lands of his ancestors lingers still and will linger forever."

[Incomplete]





## FORT WILBOURN

ON THE EMINENCE TO THE SOUTHWEST STOOD FORT WILBOURN. WHERE THE SECOND ARMY OF ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS WAS MUSTERED IN FOR SERVICE IN THE BLACKHAWK WAR. HERE ON JUNE 16. 1832. ABRAHAM LINCOLN ENLISTED AS A PRIVATE IN JACOB M. EARLY'S COMPANY. HIS FOURTH ENLISTMENT OF THE WAR.

ERECTED BY THE STATE OF ILLINOIS  
1934



# FORT JOHNSTON

ON THE EMINENCE TO THE  
EAST STOOD FORT JOHNSTON,  
HEADQUARTERS OF GEN. HENRY  
ATKINSON DURING PART OF  
THE BLACK HAWK WAR.

HERE, MAY 27, 1832,  
ABRAHAM LINCOLN ENLISTED  
AS A PRIVATE IN ELIJAH ILES'  
COMPANY - HIS THIRD  
ENLISTMENT OF THE WAR.

ERECTED BY THE STATE OF ILLINOIS  
1934



# Illinois Shrines Keep Lincoln's Memory Fresh

*Special to The Christian Science Monitor*

ROCKFORD, Ill., Feb. 12—Illinois keeps the memory of Lincoln ever alive with its many shrines erected in his honor. He is notably remembered in the Rock River Valley which this year celebrates the one hundredth anniversary of its white settlers.

Lincoln's first visit to the valley was in the capacity of soldier during the Black Hawk War. Many years later C. H. McCormick of Chicago began suit in the Federal Court against the Manny Reaper Company patent. Two of the Manny lawyers

were Edwin Stanton and Abraham Lincoln.

Lincoln visited Rockford in connection with this suit, which resulted in a victory for the Manny company. Lincoln's fee of \$1000, his largest fee up to this time, it is said, helped him to carry on his famous debates with Stephen A. Douglas, which did much to make him later the Republican candidate for President.

*Illinois Tribune  
Montgomery 2-12-34*



# DIXON STARTED BY SEARCH FOR MINING WEALTH

Trek Of Farmers To  
Galena Paved Way

## SITE FOR FERRY

By EDWARD W. VAILE.

"Dixon," said James O'Donnell Bennett, in a recent Chicago Tribune article, "is a city of traditions and continuities." It is because of these traditions and continuities that Dixon has more than an ordinary interest in the centennial which Rockford is now celebrating.

No historical review of this Rock river valley would be complete if it did not include Dixon in its narration.

### Dixon's Beginning.

Back in 1826 the farmers living south of the Illinois river, who were selling corn at 10 cents a bushel, wheat at 25 cents and pork and beef at \$1 per hundred, hearing the exaggerated stories of the great wealth contained in the hills around Galena, decided to venture into a new field in quest of riches.

The winter was spent in assembling oxen, equipping covered wagons, prairie schooners and other essentials required for the spring expedition to the much heralded land of opportunity.

In their trek to the newly-discovered lead mines they found a favorable crossing point for Rock river at what is now Dixon, and the migration was of such an extent that a man named Ogee established a ferry to greatly facilitate transportation. He also built a log cabin on the bank of the river, close by the site of the new memorial bridge.

In 1829 a man named Gay was appointed postmaster, and to his office the few scattered settlers of Freeport, Rockford and Elgin came for their mail.

Two years later John Dixon who was given the contract to carry the mail from Fort Clark (now Peoria) to Galena took over Ogee's claim and the place became known as Dixon's Ferry.

### The Black Hawk War.

It was 102 years ago the twelfth of this month that a care-free young man wearing a short jacket, shirt collar turned down at the neck, and trousers tucked in boots that partly covered his long shins marched into Dixon at the head of a company of Illinois Volunteers who came to assist in putting down the Indian uprising. The young man was Abraham Lincoln. He was described by those who saw him then as tall, awkward and ungainly, ready for anything, fun or frolic, and apparently the last man to whom the country would turn in the most critical period of its history.

The fact that he entered the war as a captain and became a private upon his subsequent enlistment would indicate that he did not greatly impress himself upon the officers in charge.

When Lincoln referred to his war record, it was usually in a joking manner. He said he hoped his friends would not attempt to play up his war record to get votes. "The only battles I fought," said Lincoln, "were with mosquitoes, and my only charge was on a patch of wild onions."

It is a matter of more than ordinary interest that it was in this vicinity that Lincoln rendered his first service to his country, and his dramatic rise from obscurity to the great heights of the world's immortals really began.

That he didn't forget the contacts he made in the Black Hawk war is evidenced by an incident following the evacuation of Fort Sumter. Major Anderson called on the president, who after complimenting him for his gallant defense, said, "Major, do you recall having seen me before?"

"No," replied the major, "I don't remember having had that pleasure."

"My memory is better than yours," said the president. "You mustered me into service as a private at Dixon's Ferry."

### Statue Now On Spot.

The young captain's company was stationed at the fort or blockhouse located on the north bank of the river between the two bridges. The site is marked with a bronze statue of Lincoln the Volunteer, erected by the state of Illinois in September, 1930.

This statue has attracted nationwide interest because it stresses an incident in the life of this much

loved man that seems to have escaped the attention of historical writers and biographers.

Tradition has it that Col. Zachary Taylor, in haranguing insurgent volunteers who felt that they were being discriminated against by the regulars said in substance, "There may be men among you who will hold high office—even that of the president." What a prophecy! He himself was the first to rise to that exalted position.

In that army were Lincoln, who was to share honors with Washington as the country's greatest president; Winfield Scott, unsuccessful candidate for the presidency; Lieut. Jefferson Davis, afterward president of the Confederacy; Major Anderson, civil war commander of Fort Sumter; Joseph E. Johnston and Albert Sidney Johnston, great generals in the confederate army; Col. W. S. Hamilton, son of Alexander Hamilton; General John A. McClernand of Shiloh fame; John M. Harney, the Indian fighter; Nathaniel Boone, son of Daniel Boone, who influenced Lincoln's grandfather to sell his farm in Virginia and move to Kentucky; John A. Logan, Peter Cartwright, a great camp-meeting preacher; Gen. Sam-

uel Whiteside, Gen. Henry Atkinson, Henry Eddy of Shawneetown, five others who afterwards became governors of Illinois, four who became United States senators, and many others who attained high places in military, political and civil life.

It is a coincidence of more than passing note that Lincoln and Davis met here, these two men who were

to play opposite roles in the great tragedy of the civil war, and around whom contending forces, already in process of formation, would soon begin to surge that were to determine our destiny as a nation.

Although fighting in the same army, it is not assumed that the two young officers had anything in common. There was a definite line of cleavage between the awkward and undisciplined volunteers dressed in butternut colored homespun, and the well-trained regulars wearing tailored uniforms.

### Contrasting Environments.

Lincoln and Davis came from widely contrasting environments. Davis was an aristocrat, the son of a Mississippi planter who had the advantage of a college education that was supplemented by four years at West Point. Lincoln was poor, without political, financial or social influence to which he might turn for aid. In the face of these facts it is quite reasonable to believe that there was no close contact between the two noted characters.

At the time of the Black Hawk war there was but one family in Dixon, that of the founder of the city. There were many interesting incidents in the war that have not been given the publicity their importance deserves.

Col. John Dement, who later became one of Dixon's prominent citizens, acquired an enviable reputation for the part he took at Kellogg's Grove.

An effort was made to keep open the road from Dixon to Galena. Two companies of regulars in charge of Col. Taylor were sent out for this purpose but were driven back to the fort. Then Col. Dement, arrived with a company of 140 men from Fort Wilburn near LaSalle. The company consisted of Dement's friends and neighbors, some of whom it was said had held nearly every office in the state, including that of governor.

Taylor ordered Dement's company to Kellogg's Grove. Quite naturally the volunteers, who didn't take any too kindly to discipline, wondered why they should be assigned such a hazardous duty when there were seasoned regulars available.

### Orders Are Read.

Dement suggested that Col. Taylor read the orders to the men,



which he did in an abrupt manner, and reprimanded the militia for its propensity for avoiding the enemy.

To this accusation Dement replied in an unmilitary manner, saying that the discontent Col. Taylor referred to was greatly exaggerated, and the question of the courage of his soldiers was entirely uncalled for.

Then, saying to his men that none need obey his order to march who didn't wish to go, he proceeded on his way followed by the entire command. Dement's loss at Kellogg's Grove was five killed and three wounded. Authorities claim that there were no regulars killed until the close of the Battle of Bad Ax.

The capture of Black Hawk, having removed the Indian scare, and the war itself, which received extensive publicity, were the important factors that influenced the tide of immigration from the east which finally settled northern Illinois.

Among these new arrivals was Dr. Oliver Everett, the first permanent physician, who was later the mayor of the city. He came here in 1836, when Dixon's population numbered four families.

Two years later Alexander Charters (familiarly known as "The Governor"), whose genial hospitality is often recalled by the older inhabitants, came to Dixon and bought the picturesque tract of river frontage familiarly known as "Hazelwood," and which is now the summer home of Charles R. Walgreen.

Many notables were entertained by this hospitable gentleman during his residence at Hazelwood. We will let Margaret Fuller Ossoli, who was a guest, tell of her impressions of the beautiful surroundings of the Charters home. "On this bend the bank is high and bold, and from the house or lawn the view rich and commanding. But, if you descend a ravine to the water's edge you find there a long walk on the narrow shore, with wall above of the richest hanging wood in which they say the deer lay hid. I never saw one but often fancied I heard them rustling, at daybreak, by these bright clear waters, stretching out in such smiling promise, where no sound broke the deep and blissful seclusion, unless now and then the rustling, or the splash of some fish, a little gayer than the others. It seemed not necessary to have any

better Heaven, or fuller expression of love and freedom than in the mood of nature here."

#### Entertained Poet's Nephew.

"Governor" Charters entertained another distinguished visitor whom the present and future generations of Dixon will always remember. It was Brig. Gen. Charles Russell Lowell, nephew of the poet, and diplomat, James Russell Lowell, who visited the "Governor" while on a business mission for the Burlington railroad.

While here he purchased the 200 acres adjoining Hazelwood, (now Lowell park), which would lead one to believe he, too, was greatly impressed with the picturesqueness of the surroundings and hoped to make his home there. Five years later he was killed in the battle of Cedar Creek while his division was assisting in holding back the Confederates until such time as Sheridan, twenty miles away, could return and re-assemble his fleeing army.

In 1905 Lowell's wife, who was a very prominent New York woman, willed this beautiful stretch of woodland to the city of Dixon.

There was not much enthusiasm about the gift at the time, but it has proven to be a popular recreation ground not only for Dixon residents but for all the people in the immediate territory. It is the only park with an extensive water frontage anywhere along the entire length of Rock river that is available for public use.

The gift has also been the incentive for the improvement of the river banks in Dixon, and the establishment of one of the best systems of parks in the state.

What about Black Hawk, who has made these regions romantic with the memories of Indian warfare?

Following his capture he was taken to the barracks at East St. Louis by Jeff Davis. Later the old warrior was removed to Fortress Monroe for trial, where no charges other than honorable warfare were found against him.

Then Uncle Sam took Black Hawk for a ride through the more densely populated centers of the east to impress upon him the futility of warring against such superior numbers.

The ride was effective. While in the east Black Hawk made a prediction "that the time would come when the courts of justice and the

prisons of the white man would fail to protect society from the criminal element our civilization was fostering.

There is a divergence of opinion as to the place Black Hawk will occupy in history. Frank Stevens, our local historian, calls him a racketeer. Victor Hugo declared he was the peer of any patriot and gave him a place above Napoleon and Alexander.

It remained, however, for Lorado Taft to immortalize him in the great stone figure that looks down upon the river from the hilltop near Oregon.



721 W. Pleasant Street,  
Freeport, Illinois.  
May 23, 1934.

Dr. Louis A. Warren, Director,  
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation,  
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Dr. Warren:

In my letter of November 28, 1933 I asked you for information about Lincoln and the Dad Joe Tavern, and in your reply of December 4 was stated, "We are sorry but do not have any information concerning the news item about which you inquired." At last I have the answer to my question. Lincoln spent the night there May 12, 1832. I have small photos of the tavern, of the open well from which Lincoln drank, and of the marker near the well, and descriptions. Thinking you might like these, I am consulting you before making use of them; and as I am to pay for them, am wondering if you pay for Lincoln material, and how. I will appreciate hearing from you soon. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

*Ethel Kay Wood*

Mrs. Ethel Kay Wood.



## LINCOLN IN BLACK HAWK WAR

3-4-35

*Compiled by HERBERT WELLS FAY, Custodian Lincoln's Tomb*

Abraham Lincoln always made short of his services in the Black Hawk War. He never got to see the celebrated warrior or even an Indian. All that it has meant to those implicated was a little experience, and Lincoln made some valued acquaintances.

His company was mustered in April 21, 1832, and mustered out May 27, 1832. After serving 37 days as captain, he became a private in Elijah Iles' company and served until the company was discharged. For ready reference we give an alphabetical roster of both companies, (\*) indicating that they served in both. Where the spelling is different, we give each. The rosters are as follows:

Abraham Lincoln, Captain\*.

Samuel M. Thompson, 1st Lieutenant.  
John Brannan, 2nd Lieutenant\*.

John Armstrong, George W. Foster\*,  
Traviner B. Anderson, Obadiah Morgan,  
Sergeants.

Thomas Comb, William F. Berry, John  
Plaster, Alexander Trent, Corporals.

Privates—Urban Alexander, 33; Isaac Anderson, 57; Hugh Armstrong, 29; Pleasant Armstrong, 51; Clardey Barnett, 41; Merritt M. Carman, 35; Royal Clary, 50; William Clary, 66; James Clemment, 47; Henry Cox, 34; William Cox, 43; Valentine Crete, 26; William Cummins, 59\*; Joseph Dobson, 31; Nathan Drake, 63; Samuel Dutten, 17; Cyrus Elmore, 21; Travice Elmore, 61; John Erwin, 12; Lewis W. Farmer, 23; William Foster, 62; William Green, Isaac Gulliver, 68; Henry Hadley, 16; Jacob Heaverer, 67; William Hobiner, 56; Joseph Holmier, 38; John H. Houghton, 13; John Jones, 60; Richard Jones, 45; Allen King, 30; William Kirkpatrick, 20\*; Evan T. Lamb, 40; John Y. Lane, 48; Richard Lane, 49; Thomas Long, William Marshall, 58; Bordry Mathews, 24; Usil Meeker, 44\*; John Mounce, 55; David M. Pantier, 37; Calvin Pierce, 18; Charles Pierce, 46; Elijah Pierce, 22; Thomas Pierce, 14\*; Michael Plaster, 54; Robert

S. Plunkett, 64; Royal Potter, 36; David Rankin, 32; David Rutledge, 53; John M. Rutledge, 42\*; James Simmons, 28; William Sprouee, 65; Charles Sullivan, 27; Eph. Sullivan, 25; Joseph Tibb, 19; Samuel Tibb, 15; George Warburton, 39; James Yardley, 52.

NOTE—Arranged alphabetically from Lincoln's original muster roll owned by Frank Stevens author of "The Black Hawk War." The figures after the names are the order Lincoln used. There are given in the Adjutant General's reports Vol. 9, page 100, eleven officers and 59 privates, making a total of 70, but Mr. Lincoln only lists 68. For some reason the names of William Green and Thomas Long do not appear in Mr. Lincoln's roster. The spelling is that of the Lincoln document and is different from all other lists.











There probably is no doubt that Lincoln's Company in the Black Hawk war was mustered into the service at Beardstown and marched from there to Dixon, Ill., where they were stationed most of the time. They made one scouting expedition as far east as DeKalb County and camped overnight on the Kishwaukee River at what was later Cottonville, the first county seat of DeKalb County, three miles north of DeKalb. General Zach Taylor was in command; under him was his future son-in-law, Jefferson Davis, and Abraham Lincoln was captain of a company. No one mistrusted at that time that the three men would be on the lips of every American if not the entire world. While all this has been written and re-written, yet the authors do not agree on the place where Lincoln was elected captain of his company. Some have it Springfield, Clary's Grove, Rushville, Beardstown and other places,

and several dates are given. Who has documentary or other evidence in the case?

John W. K. — 7/11/36



Capital Times Madison, Wis. 1/16/36

# History Reveals Abe Lincoln As Indian Fighter in State

## Was Volunteer in War Waged Against Black Hawk

While Joseph W. Jackson, the first forceful advocate of an all-Wisconsin centennial celebration, and others associated with him in the promotion of next Monday's program in capital park are continuing to discuss the circumstances under which legislators in the newly created territory of Wisconsin worked a century ago, few persons undoubtedly are aware that the name of Abraham Lincoln ought to be linked with Henry Dodge's from a viewpoint of eliminating Indian disorders.

Making himself a definite part of early Wisconsin history, Lincoln served as a soldier in the Black Hawk war. He did not, of course, capture Black Hawk as some of the Paul Bunyan type of fictionists would like to say. But, like Dodge, he suffered certain hardships while seeking Black Hawk's capture, going without food at times and sleeping in mosquito-infested places.

### Abe Answered Call

One hundred and four years ago today, in fact, Abraham Lincoln became a soldier, responding to the call of Gov. Reynolds of Illinois, who rose to the heights of anger after learning of the most recent Black Hawk raids. A volunteer soldier at 23, when it was necessary for him to furnish his own horse, rifle and ammunition, Lincoln went with some neighbors from New Salem to Beardstown to enlist. He was chosen as captain and had Gen. Whiteside as commanding officer.

Heading for Lake Koshkonong, where Chief Black Hawk was reported to be holding forth with the white girls whom he had taken captive, Lincoln and his men were mustered into the U. S. army. They halted for a time at the Henderson river in order to construct a bridge. They were told not to do any firing within 50 yards of the camp. But Lincoln violated this order, was placed under arrest and had to go without his sword for a day.

### Penalized Again

Later, while he was sleeping at night, one of his men stole liquor from the officers quarters. Then he proceeded to make all the soldiers

drunk. The next day, although he was not at fault, Capt. Lincoln was ordered to wear a wooden sword for two days as a penalty. He also was told to stay behind with his men until sobriety had replaced drunkenness.

Lincoln's term as a captain ended on May 28, when the Illinois volunteers had put in the required service. But immediately he responded to Gov. Reynolds' second call for volunteers, returning to the rank of private. On July 10, 1832, while in the Beloit-Janesville region awaiting word from the camp of Col. Dodge, who actually negotiated the rescue of the two white girls through Chief White Crow, a Winnebago, Lincoln's men endured some hardships, even though they had no opportunity to meet Black Hawk in battle.

### Horse Was Stolen

While getting ready to start for his home at New Salem, Lincoln learned that his horse had been stolen. A friend reported the same circumstance, causing the two to walk many miles to the mouth of the Whitewater river, where they obtained the use of a boat, which finally took them down the Illinois river by way of Peoria.

Twenty-seven years later, as a speaker at the Wisconsin State Fair in Milwaukee, where he advocated improved farm, labor and educational conditions, Lincoln received a fee of \$100. This Wisconsin speech is the only one on record in the state historical society of Wisconsin. At the time it was given it received scant notice in the newspapers, for the Lincoln-Douglas debate a year before at Freeport had made Lincoln somewhat unpopular.



*Ill. State Journal 6/30/36*  
E JOURNAL, SPRINGFIELD

## ANDERSON AND DAVIS SERVED IN INDIAN WAR

Were Men Later To Have  
Effect On Salem In  
White House.

Jefferson Davis, later secretary of war and president of the Confederacy, served during the Blackhawk war as adjutant to Col. Zachary Taylor, and presumably he made the trip to Galena participated in by Lincoln. Lincoln may have known who Davis was, but he not sworn into service by the young West Pointer as has been asserted.

Maj. Robert Anderson was a lieutenant during this campaign, serving with Lincoln in the blockhouse at Dixon. Anderson was later the defender of Fort Sumter, and there is a story that when Lincoln met

him at the white house he reminded Anderson that the latter had mustered him into the service.



# YOUNG LINCOLN NAMED CAPTAIN IN INDIAN WAR

## Volunteers Went North To Put Down Revolt Of

Black Hawk,

*Ill. St. Journal* 6/30/36  
When Governor Reynolds' messenger rode through New Salem one day in the spring of 1832, calling for men to put down an uprising of the Sac Indians under Chief Black Hawk in the north part of the state, Lincoln and his friends enlisted.

Lincoln was elected captain of the volunteers who met at Richland and this appointment was confirmed at Beardstown April 29 when his company was mustered into the fourth regiment, mounted volunteers, of Gen. Samuel Whiteside's brigade.

The brigade moved from Beardstown to Oquawka on the Mississippi, then proceeded north to a point near the mouth of the Rock river, just south of the present city of Rock Island. At the site of this encampment, known today as Lincoln camp, they were formally inducted into the service of the United States on May 7.

### Moved Up To Dixon.

The force moved up the Rock river to Dixon's ferry, burning the Prophets' Village (now Prophetstown) on the way, and then to various points around the countryside. The old blockhouse at Dixon has since been acquired by the state; in the town also stands a statue of Lincoln as a soldier in the Blackhawk war, dedicated in 1930 when Dixon observed its centennial.

By May 27 Lincoln's company was at Ottawa, where it was mustered out. Two days later he re-enlisted as a mounted ranger under Capt. Elijah Iles, and the company marched to Galena on the Mississippi, famed for its lead mines and as the home of Gen. U. S. Grant, which is still preserved there by the state, high on a hill overlooking the antique town.

### Re-Enlists At Ottawa.

Again on June 16 the company was mustered out, and Lincoln re-enlisted. The party moved to Dixon, then to Kellogg's Grove, and back to Dixon. Again the company marched north, and Lincoln was finally mustered out at Black River, Wis., on July 16. During this time, they had seen no "living, fighting Indians" and Lincoln in later years looked on the expedition much in the nature of a lark. Yet the experience was valuable.

North of Dixon on the Rock river is Oregon, along the route followed by Lincoln's company, and here stands Lorado Taft's splendid statue, sixty feet high, representing Black Hawk. Just below Oregon, on the east side of the river, is the estate of former Governor Frank O. Lowden, Sinnissippi farm. In the courthouse yard in Oregon stands another work by Taft, a sculptural tribute to the veterans of the Civil war.



This statue of Abraham Lincoln, Black Hawk war soldier, was unveiled at Dixon when that city observed its centennial in 1930. Lincoln during this campaign served at Dixon.

"MISS ILLINOIS" TO



## LINCOLN'S FIRST WAR

*Compiled by HERBERT WELLS FAY, Custodian of Lincoln Tomb*

Lincoln played such an important part in the legislation, the humanity, the tragedies and the progress of the nation, that many of the minor incidents of his life are overlooked. One of these was his services in the Black Hawk War. It is true that a man of Lincoln's noble impulses naturally would hesitate to take part in any cause that would deny any man, white or black, red or yellow any unchallenged rights. But Lincoln's whole thought was law and order. He believed that anything that ought to be secured could, by proper agitation, be secured in its proper turn.

The Stone Age philosophy was conquest. The stronger tribes drove on the weaker. Black Hawks only title to the happy hunting grounds of Illinois was force. He may or may not have known that the spirit of the world is "That you cannot stop Progress." The changing of his hunting prairies into ploughed fields aroused his ire. It was no matter if he was allowed just an ideal hunting grounds beyond the Father of Waters, he rebelled and sought the aid of other tribes. Shabbona chief, who had a band stationed at what is known as Shabbona Grove, DeKalb County, Illinois, two townships south and one west of the city of DeKalb, saw the futility at Black Hawk's anger and refused to join in the revolt. Shabbona Chief had been present at the battle near Detroit, Mich., and had seen his cousin, Tecumseh shot down and came back to DeKalb County and said: "White Man too Many." Redman get more man too many. Red man get more from white man peacefully." Spurning Black Hawk's entreaties, Shabbona rode through the country and warned the settlers of Black Hawk's raid. Most of the pioneers congregated at the forts for protection, but a few thought it was a canard and paid no attention, and the Indians fell upon a few families on Indian Creek, Freedom Township, LaSalle County, fifteen miles south of

May 1937

Shabbona Grove and killed sixteen people outright and carried away the two little Hall girls to be held for ransom. They were taken north to Shabbona Grove, to DeKalb, to Kapas Indian camp, three miles north, later to Coltonville, the first county seat of DeKalb County, then to Janesville to Oconomowoc, to General Gratiot. There General Gratiot gave \$2,000 on the part of the government for their redemption. After their release they were taken south to Galena, where they rested from their sensational ride, and later returned to their home in LaSalle County. We have a booklet, printed in 1832 giving an account of the tragedy and giving sketches of the Hall girls being carried away. It is a prize historical item.

### Lincoln, Jefferson Davis and Taylor

General Zachary Taylor was in command in the field in the Black Hawk War, under General Scott. With Taylor was his son-in-law, Jefferson Davis and Abraham Lincoln, and General Atkinson figured prominently in the skirmish. Their army base was at Dixon, Ill., but in scouting the country they camped over night near Chief Kapa's village, later Coltonville, on the Kishwaukee Creek, three miles north of DeKalb. Kapas was killed by his own warriors, so tradition states, for taking liberties with the squaws of the leaders by Matson. In it was an account of a position, with a log stockade over the bona had given Billy Caldwell, a half-grave. The site was located by the breed in Chicago. John wanted to see writer, and a few local historians, about that paper. This writer told him that thirty years ago, when the field was plowed for the first time in a half to which he replied, "Me go too." We century. A row of cobble stones, six feet easily located the document in the Chilong and two feet wide were mearthed, eago Historical Society collection and positively locating the spot. It was very Miss Mellwain volunteered to send him near the place where dozens of pioneers a copy. While there, she asked to have had seen the stockade. There was a well defined trail following the Kishwaukee stream from Shabbona's camp through the DeKalb Normal campus (where Theodore Roosevelt spoke) to Colton-

ville, the site of Kapas' camp grounds. Pioneers had often pointed out the route of this trail along which this writer has picked up thousands of Indian arrow heads and other implements of the stone age.

Twenty years after, when Taylor became president of the United States, he issued a patent (which we have before us) to William Munson, who married one of the Hall girls. The deed conveyed to Mr. Munson the land where the massacre occurred and he erected a monument on the grounds, and later the state took over the grounds, and it is now known as Shabbona Park, LaSalle County.

Shabbona Chief is now history, as the Paul Revere of the Black Hawk War, who lived about sixteen miles from the home of this writer, and in later years he often on his trips to Aurora and Chicago would stop at DeKalb County homes and get a hand-out. Often he came to our back door and say: "Me Hungry."

In the collection we have about a hundred pictures of Shabbona and his family. Years ago Shabbona's daughter and her son, John Shabbona, stationed at an Indian reservation at Mayetta, Kansas, made a trip to Shabbona Grove and, being told about the Shabbona pictures at DeKalb visited this writer, and scores of photographs were made of the descendants, that have been very widely published.

Later John Shabbona returned. He was shown the life of Shabbona Chief and was buried in a sitting presentation of a document that Shabbona had given Billy Caldwell, a half-grave. The site was located by the breed in Chicago. John wanted to see writer, and a few local historians, about that paper. This writer told him that thirty years ago, when the field was plowed for the first time in a half to which he replied, "Me go too." We century. A row of cobble stones, six feet easily located the document in the Chilong and two feet wide were mearthed, eago Historical Society collection and positively locating the spot. It was very Miss Mellwain volunteered to send him near the place where dozens of pioneers a copy. While there, she asked to have had seen the stockade. There was a well defined trail following the Kishwaukee stream from Shabbona's camp through the DeKalb Normal campus (where Theodore Roosevelt spoke) to Colton-

"John Shabbona, grand-son of Shabbona Chief visited the Chicago Historical Society rooms today, and in the margin will be found his thumb print." This was attested to by this writer.

That evening on returning to DeKalb, John grunted a little and pressed his thumb on the margin of a pad and said, "Why?" He was suspicious that he had signed away some of his rights.

Mr. Lincoln's first war experience lasted but a few months, and he saw no battles, not even a skirmish, and no history of the office would be complete without a chapter on Shabbona, the Paul Revere of the Black Hawk War.



# LINCOLN LORE

Bulletin of the Lincoln National Life Foundation - - - - Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor  
 Published each week by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Number 475

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

May 16, 1938

## LINCOLN'S ASSOCIATES IN THE BLACK HAWK WAR

(Continued)

There are few periods in Lincoln's life which have been so open to controversy as the weeks which Lincoln spent in the Black Hawk War. This fact has been especially true with respect to the identity of the companies with which he was associated. This copy of *Lincoln Lore*, continuing the number of last week, attempts to clarify some of these difficulties.

It would appear from the official reports that Lincoln served in Capt. White's company from May 26 to June 15, but the fact is he served but one day. The day after he enlisted in White's company he evidently withdrew and joined the company of Captain Elijah Iles, as his time of service here begins on May 27 and continues to June 16. It is quite evident that he could not have been serving in two companies at the same time.

### CAPT. ELIJAH ILES' COMPANY

Called into service by the Governor of Illinois and served from May 27 to June 16, 1832.

Name and Rank Residence

Lieutenant Colonel Sangamon Co.

Henry, James D. Sangamon Co.

Captain

Iles, Elijah Sangamon Co.

First Lieutenant

Harrison, Jesse W. Sangamon Co.

Second Lieutenant

Roberts, Henry B. Sangamon Co.

Sergeants

Burch, Benjamin Sangamon Co.

Glasscock, George W. Sangamon Co.

Malugen, Zachariah Sangamon Co.

Ward, James A. Sangamon Co.

Corporals

Darrow, Jesse Sangamon Co.

Diamond, G. W. Fayette Co.

Foster, G. W. Sangamon Co.

Trent, Alexander F. Sangamon Co.

Adjutant

Oliphant, E. P. Sangamon Co.

Privates

Alley, James Fayette Co.

Archer, Michael Sangamon Co.

Bell, A. W. Macon Co.

Brannan, John Sangamon Co.

Brents, Moses Sangamon Co.

Churchill, Lewis Sangamon Co.

Cole, Elbridge Fayette Co.

Coventry, John Fayette Co.

Crow, William Sangamon Co.

Deweese, Samuel B. Macon Co.

Dickinson, David Sangamon Co.

Earley, Jacob M. Sangamon Co.

Bey, Jacob E. Sangamon Co.

Esters, Asta Sangamon Co.

Garret, Joseph F.	Sangamon Co.
Gateley, John J.	Sangamon Co.
Ginger, Miles	Fayette Co.
Grafft, John	Jo Davies Co.
Hankins, John	Fayette Co.
Hanks, Joseph	Macon Co.
Harrington, John	Fayette Co.
Hickerson, G. W.	Fayette Co.
Johnson, Henry	Fayette Co.
Kendall, John J.	Sangamon Co.
Keys, John	Sangamon Co.
Kirkpatrick, John	Sangamon Co.
Kirkpatrick, William	Sangamon Co.
Lane, Jacob	Macon Co.
Letcher, John	No county
Lincoln, Abraham	Sangamon Co.
Long, Thomas	Sangamon Co.
McAlister, Wm.	Sangamon Co.
McAlister, John	Sangamon Co.
McCoy, Joseph	Sangamon Co.
McJenkins, Hugh	Tazewell Co.
Malugen, Samuel	Sangamon Co.
Manley, John	Macon Co.
Mason, Noah	Sangamon Co.
Matheny, Lorenzo D.	Sangamon Co.
Morris, Achilles	Sangamon Co.
Neale, Winston M.	Sangamon Co.
O'Neil, Samuel	Sangamon Co.
Patterson, Joseph	Fayette Co.
Paul, John	Tazewell Co.
Pickerell, William S.	Sangamon Co.
Pierce, Thomas	Sangamon Co.
Potts, William L.	Sangamon Co.
Querry, James	Macon Co.
Reid, James F.	Sangamon Co.
Rusk, Benjamin	Sangamon Co.
Rutledge, James	Morgan Co.
Rutledge, John B.	Sangamon Co.
Saunders, Presley A.	Sangamon Co.
Shirley, John	Fayette Co.
Stuart, John T.	Sangamon Co.
Taulgee, Isaac	Fayette Co.
Ward, James M.	Sangamon Co.
Welch, Jefferson	Sangamon Co.
Wright, John D.	Macon Co.

"Whereas, In pursuance of the Act of Congress, approved March 3, 1855, entitled An Act, in addition to certain Acts, Granting Bounty Land to certain officers and soldiers who have been engaged in the military services of the United States, There has been deposited in the General Land Office, Warrant No. 68645, for 120 acres of land in favor of Abraham Lincoln, Captain Illinois Militia, Black Hawk War, with evidence that the same has been duly located upon the east half of the northeast quarter, and northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section eighteen, in Township eighty-four, north of Range thirty-nine west, in the district of Lands subject to sale at Council Bluffs, Iowa, containing one hundred and twenty-acres, according to the official plat of the survey of the said land returned to the General Land Office by the Surveyor General, the said tract having been located by the said Abraham Lincoln . . ."

"In Testimony, whereof, I, James Buchanan, President of the United States of America, have caused these Letters to be made Patent, and the seal of the General Land Office to be hereto affixed.

"(Seal)

"Given under my hand, at the City of Washington, the tenth day of September, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-fifth.

"By the President: James Buchanan.

"By J. B. Leonard, Sec.

"G. W. Granger, Recorder of the General Land Office.

"Recorded vol. 468, page 53."

How closely Lincoln was associated with Zachary Taylor, Jefferson Davis, and Robert Anderson while he was serving in the Black Hawk War is a question which has often been discussed. With reference to the contact between Lincoln and Anderson, Lincoln himself, had made testimony that it was Anderson as a young lieutenant who mustered him into service.

Mrs. Davis, in her memoir of her husband, states that Jefferson Davis as a young lieutenant, administered the oath to Lincoln when he enlisted. This statement is not so well confirmed but it does seem that if Lincoln would remember Anderson he would not forget Jefferson Davis. While it is known that Lieutenant Jefferson Davis did administer the oath to some recruits, it apparently lacks confirmation that Lincoln was one of them.

There has been much speculation as to the acreage and location of the land which Lincoln received for his Black Hawk War service. An article prepared by Dr. H. E. Pratt on the administration of Abraham Lincoln's estate reveals that the inventory listed "forty acres in Tama County, Iowa, acquired in 1854 under an Act of Congress of 1850 providing bounties to participants in the Black Hawk War" also "patent to 120 acres more for services in the same war was issued to him in 1860. This land Lincoln located in Crawford County, Iowa, six miles northwest of Denison, the county seat."

A document referring to the last tract is herewith submitted.

"The United States Of America.  
 "To All Whom These Presents Shall Come, Greeting:



**Blackhawk too Slick** State Journal  
Madison, Wis.  
April 16, 1939.

## *G-Man Abe Lincoln Failed in Kidnap Hunt*

Abraham Lincoln, tall and gawky, became a G-man just 107 years ago today.

And he went after kidnapers, but didn't get his man.

Only 23 then, Abe strode to the office of the Illinois militia in Beardstown, Ill., on April 16, 1832, and said he wanted to help chase Indians.

Gov. Reynolds of Illinois had issued a call for militiamen to rescue two Hall girls who had been captured near Indian Springs by Black Hawk, a Sac chief. After killing the girls' parents, the Indian kidnaper took the girls to a hideout in the Beloit-Janesville vicinity.

### **Captain Abe**

They made Abe a captain. Abe and his militia companions were sent to find the chief, who, besides disregarding the usual rules against kidnaping, had violated a treaty which provided that he stay on his side of the river—west of the Mississippi.

Late in April Lincoln's company, part of the fourth Illinois regiment under command of Gen. Whiteside, started on its march to Rock Island.

On the trip Lincoln discovered that—though a sober man him-

self—liquor tasted good to some of his privates.

### **A Wooden Sword**

A member of the company stole some whisky one day from officers' quarters, gulped it down, was temporarily unable to march.

And Capt. Lincoln was forced to wear a wooden sword for two days as a reprimand for lack of discipline among his men.

When the company reached Rock Island, Lincoln was mustered into the federal army. There was more Indian hunting. But the kidnaper had not been found. And the girls still were missing.

Capt. Lincoln, the militia, and the army had been unable to do the job, but finally White Crow, Winnebago chief, obtained the girls' release.

The task done, Capt. Lincoln was released from service, given a grant of land in Iowa, later one in Illinois, and in 1860 was president.



# Lincoln's Bloodiest Battle Was Fought in Wisconsin

## But Abe Did Not Make Political Medicine Out of Role in Indian War

To every school child Abraham Lincoln's rail splitting, his Gettysburg speech, his emancipation of the slaves and finally his martyrdom are familiar stories. But few, if any, of these youthful students of history have ever been told that as a lowly buck private in the Blackhawk Indian wars of 1832 Lincoln fought his "bloodiest" engagements right here in Wisconsin.

That war, although comparatively small, judged today, was fought 110 years ago this summer. A great number of men who later became distinguished in American history took part in the war. Two later became presidents, one a secretary of war, several senators, one a territorial governor, one a renowned financier, one became a chief justice of Wisconsin and one became president of the Confederacy.

The presidents who fought side by side in Wisconsin to quell an uprising, and never found it out until the Civil war era, were Lincoln and Gen. Zachary Taylor. Jefferson Davis also fought in the war. Before he became president of the Confederacy, he was secretary of war and a senator from Mississippi.

### Roll Call of the Greats

Among the other greats who fought but never met on this Wisconsin training ground for politics were Gen. Winfield Scott, military hero of the Mexican war and a candidate for president; Henry Dodge, a colonel of the Rangers who became territorial governor and United States senator from Wisconsin; William L. D. Ewing, United States senator from Wisconsin; Sidney Breese, a senator from this state and its chief justice for a long period; Col. William S. Hamilton, son of Alexander Hamilton, the first secretary of the treasury; Col. Nathan Boone, son of Daniel Boone, the pioneer; Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston, Confederate military genius killed at the battle of Shiloh; Col. James Collins, a Whig politician in the territorial days, and Gen. Robert Anderson, defender of Fort Sumpter, who once mustered Pvt. Lincoln into service, not to find it out until President Lincoln called it to his attention at Washington in 1865.

The martyred president took his military career in a light vein. Speaking as a member of the house of representatives when his name had been mentioned in connection with the presidency, he said:

"By the way, Mr. Speaker, did you know I am a military hero? Yes, sir. In the days of the Blackhawk war I fought, bled and came away. It is quite certain that I did not break my sword for I had none to break; but I bent a musket pretty badly on one occasion. It was by accident. If Gen. Cass went in advance of me in picking whortle berries, I guess I surpassed him in charges upon the wild onions. If he saw any live fighting of Indians it was more than I did, but I had a good many bloody struggles with the mosquitoes; and, although I never fainted from loss of blood I can truly say I was often very hungry."

### Jeff Davis' Claim

How members of this famed trio, who fought and bled from mosquito bites in this old Indian war, used their military records in political campaigning is illustrative of their character. Lincoln linked his with whortle berries and mosquitoes.

Jefferson Davis claimed to have captured Blackhawk and to have delivered him to Gen. Taylor. This claim is discredited by Scanlan in his "Prairie du Chien," revealing that Lieut. Davis, a well thought of young officer, happened to be on leave of absence during most of the campaign but on his return to duty was assigned to escort the Indian chieftain from Fort Crawford, where he had surrendered to Col. Taylor, to Gen. Scott at Galena and then on to Jefferson barracks at St. Louis. Scanlan also disclaimed statements that Lincoln had been sworn into service by the then Lieut. Davis.

Jefferson Davis served under Col. Taylor as a lieutenant in Company B, 1st infantry. Lincoln was mustered into service at least once by Maj. Robert Anderson, the later defender of Fort Sumpter. This was May 29, 1832. At a later date the Civil war president was sworn into service in an independent company, probably by Col. Taylor, when the value of his arms was listed at \$40, his horse and equipment at \$120.

Zachary Taylor, of course, used his Indian war record in his successful campaign for the presidency.

The Blackhawk Indian war turned Wisconsin into a training ground for a greater number of future statesmen and military heroes than ever had been assembled under similar circumstances before.

Historians may argue as to the truth of the cherry tree story. Others may contend that the "Father of Our Country" would not have thrown a dollar across the Potomac river even if he had had that sort of a pitching arm. But no one can deny that the first president had two birthdays.

Washington was 20 years old when England adopted the Gregorian calendar which automatically added 11 days to the order of time, according to the Julian calendar in vogue when Washington was born.

### He Favored the Eleventh

So despite the fact that the nation celebrates Washington's birthday on Feb. 22, he contended until

the day of his death that his rightful birthday was Feb. 11.

In the Washington family Bible appears the following entry: "George Washington, son to Augustine and Mary, his wife, was born on ye eleventh day of February 1732 about 10 in the morning, and was baptized on ye thirtieth of April following."

According to Rupert Hughes, whose collection of Washingtonia is said to be one of the largest in America, "To Washington's dying day he thought of himself as being born on Feb. 11. Entries in his diary made during the last two years of his life indicate this fact."

According to Pennsylvania history, the first state celebration of Washington's birthday occurred at Valley Forge on Feb. 22, 1778, while Virginia, which followed the old reckoning, celebrated Washington's final birthday at Alexandria on Feb. 11, 1799.

### A Joint Celebration

Lincoln's birthday, Feb. 12, and Washington's real birthday, Feb. 11, could become a three day weekend commemorating in one holiday period the birthdays of two of our great presidents if the calendar revision known as the World calendar was adopted, Dr. Clyde R. Miller of the teachers college of Columbia university points out.

The World calendar plan, which has received international recognition, the approval of 14 governments and many associations, divides the 12 month year into equal quarters, the first month of each quarter having 31 days and the two succeeding months 30 days.

Each month has exactly 26 weekdays, each quarter begins on Sunday and ends on Saturday and each year begins with Sunday, Jan. 1. This new calendar arrangement advocated by the World Calendar association, an endowed, nonprofit organization, makes the days and weeks of each successive year the same.

With this revision Washington's birthday would be celebrated on Feb. 11, the day he himself observed, and Lincoln's birthday, coming on Sunday, Feb. 12, would be celebrated on the Monday following, creating a standardized, perpetual, three day week end in honor of these two presidents.



# LINCOLN LORE

Bulletin of the Lincoln National Life Foundation - - - Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor  
Published each week by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana

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## BLACK HAWK WAR STATIONS

During the present military enterprise thousands of American men will add new titles to their names. After the return to normal life some will prefer to retain the well earned prefixes but a large majority of those who enter the business world will discard the designations of rank for the old time nickname. Although Abraham Lincoln served as a captain in the Black Hawk war it is not known that he ever utilized the title after returning to his New Salem home.

As a handy check list of the principal stations where Lincoln stopped during his season of preliminary military training this issue of Lincoln Lore has arranged in chronological order the names of places associated with the early soldier life of Lincoln

### New Salem

Upon hearing of Governor Reynolds' call for troops Lincoln immediately enlisted at New Salem, where he was then living. This was on April 19 (Patriot's Day), 1832.

### Richland

The recruits assembled at Richland and they chose Lincoln a captain of one of the companies on April 21st. The famous Thompson-Lincoln western march took place here.

### Beardstown

Lincoln and company went into camp at Beardstown and on April 28th were mustered in the state service by Col. John J. Hardin. Lincoln's company was at Beardstown one week.

### Rushville

North of Rushville on April 30th, Lincoln's company was inducted into the Fourth Illinois Regiment of Mounted Volunteers.

### Yellow Banks

Here Lincoln and his company remained for three days, breaking camp on May 7th. Lincoln probably saw here a real Indian war dance which was put on by the friendly Sacs.

### Camp Creek

Lincoln mustered into the United States military service at Camp Creek on May 9, 1832.

### Prophetstown

A stop is made here by the troops and the Indian dwellings were burned.

### Dixon's Ferry

Lincoln and his company under the command of Col. Thompson camped near Dixon's Ferry on May 16th, and remained until May 19th. This place might be called the capital of the Black Hawk War community, and it is very appropriate that a bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln, by Leonard Crunelle, has been erected in the city.

### Stillman's Battlefield

Here Lincoln first views dead soldiers and assists in their burial, after the engagement known as Stillman's Defeat. Lincoln made a brief reference to this incident in some remarks on the floor of Congress in 1848. He said "I was not at Stillman's defeat but I was about as near it as Cass was to Hull's surrender and like him, I saw the place very soon afterwards."

### Sycamore

Poll taken of Lincoln's company here on May 23rd to decide whether or not they should demand their discharge.

### Ottawa

Troops mustered out here on May 26th and 27th and

Lincoln reenlists. He became a private in Capt. Alexander White's company, but a day later reenlisted in Capt. Elijah Iles' company. Lincoln was mustered into Iles' company on May 29th and remained at Ottawa until June 6th.

### Dixon's Ferry

Second encampment near Dixon's Ferry was made on June 7th.

### Galena

The Iles' detachment arrived on June 10th but retraced steps the following day for Dixon's Ferry.

### Dixon's Ferry

Captain Iles' company, of which Lincoln was a member, arrived back in Dixon's Ferry on June 13th, for the third encampment there.

### Fort Wilburn

The fourth and last enlistment of Lincoln occurred at Fort Wilburn on June 16th, 1832. He became a private in Capt. Jacob M. Early's company.

### Dixon's Ferry

Captain Early's company of which Lincoln was now a member returned to Dixon's Ferry on June 22nd for the fourth encampment.

### Kellogg's Grove

Lincoln makes all night march from Dixon's Ferry to Kellogg's Grove where a battle had been fought. His own statement about the episode is available:

"I remember just how those men looked as we rode up to the little hill where their camp was. The red light of the morning sun was streaming upon them as they lay heads towards us on the ground. And every man had a round, red spot on the top of his head, about as big as a dollar where the redskins had taken his scalp. It was frightful, but it was grotesque, and the red sunlight seemed to paint everything all over. I remember that one man had on buckskin breeches."

### Dixon's Ferry

A day after the Kellogg Grove episode the soldiers returned to Dixon's Ferry without seeing any action.

### Turtle Village

On June 28 Private Lincoln was again on the move and on July 1st crossed into Michigan territory (now Wisconsin) at Turtle Village. A brief encampment was made here.

### Lake Koshkonong

Although Captain Early and his company made camp at Lake Koshkonong on July 2 for the next four days they were used for scouting duty.

### White Water River

Troops were encamped at Lake Koshkonong until July 6th when they moved on to White Water River, four miles above its mouth. Here Lincoln with other members of the company was honorably discharged on July 10th.

### Dixon's Ferry

The Ferry is again reached by Lincoln on his trip home-ward, but it is not known that Lincoln tarried there. This was his sixth visit to this place.

### Peoria

At Peoria on the return trip Lincoln and a friend purchased a canoe which they used for transportation down the Illinois river.

### Havana

Disembarking at Havana, Lincoln made his way across the country to New Salem where he arrived July 18th having been away from home approximately three months.



# LINCOLN LORE

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## CAPTAIN LINCOLN RETURNS FROM WAR

The difficulties between the western settlers and the Indians in 1832 might be classified as little more than a skirmish, but it is usually referred to as the Black Hawk War. Abraham Lincoln participated in the hostilities as an enlisted man and was chosen captain of a company of Sangamon County volunteers. He reenlisted twice during the contest and although he saw no active participation against the Redskins he remained with the troops until finally they were mustered out.

Lincoln was released from the army on July 10, 1832 at the mouth of White Water River in what is now the state of Wisconsin. Inasmuch as he was attached to a mounted company the question of transportation home-ward apparently did not bother him so he planned to leave with his associates in a body the following morning after receiving his discharge notice. That very night however Lincoln and a friend named George Harrison had their horses stolen and found themselves without mounts. Possibly they were able to thumb rides with more fortunate veterans by some kind of a cooperative agreement whereby they alternately occupied the saddles as the two hundred miles to Peoria, Ill., seems to have been made in about four days.

On July 15th Lincoln and Harrison purchased a canoe at Peoria and for two days slowly made their way down the Illinois River as far as Havana. Here they sold the canoe and on July 17 started across country afoot probably arriving at New Salem a day or two later.

There was no special committee at New Salem to greet Lincoln upon his return from the war, and certainly no home with a greeting over its door "Welcome home Abe." It is doubtful if there was any specific place in New Salem which he could call his home. More painful however, than the loneliness he must have experienced, was the possibly unintentional frustrating during his absence of his plans to gain political recognition.

Although in the spring of 1832 Lincoln had been in Illinois but two years and for only six months of this period a resident at New Salem, just before the war broke he had announced as a candidate for representative from Sangamon County in the Illinois Legislature. It would be expected that his military service would help his candidacy and many biographies have implied it did, but in Lincoln's case just the reverse was true.

Possibly the first important fact that Lincoln learned after reaching New Salem at the close of the war was the omission of his name from a list in the Sangamon Journal featuring the candidates for the legislature who were in the military service. The announcement apparently printed as an apology to Mr. Lincoln appeared in the Sangamon Journal for July 19, 1832. It follows:

"Some weeks ago, May 3, we gave a list of those candidates of this county (omitting by accident the name of Captain Lincoln, of New Salem) who were on the frontier periling their lives in the service of their country."

This notice could not have been of much assistance to him at so late a date as the election was a little more than two weeks away. The shortness of time before the election gave him little opportunity to canvass the people. It is not surprising that he failed to poll a sufficient number of votes to become elected and in after years he referred to this experience as the only time he was ever defeated by a vote of the people.

Here we have a picture of a returned soldier twenty-three years old with no job waiting for him, rejected at the polls and undecided what was before him. In this attitude of mind Lincoln made this interesting observation written in his own words in the third person:

"He studied what he should do—thought of learning the blacksmith trade—thought of trying to study law—rather thought he could not succeed at that without a better education."

It also appears that thousands of returning young soldiers are reacting identically as Lincoln did. As has been suggested he had decided to enter the political arena before he went off to war. In the meantime he had come in contact with men who encouraged him to better prepare himself for whatever he might undertake and the thought of blacksmithing was dismissed in order that he might give himself to study in preparation for the profession of law. Not all of the young men now crowding our colleges are merely continuing their college courses interrupted by war but great numbers of them who years ago were satisfied with merely a high school diploma, are for the first time planning courses in higher education.

As we look back on the career of Abraham Lincoln we feel very thankful that the reverses indirectly brought about by his war service brought him to the realization of the need of better preparation before he launched out into the field of politics via the profession of law which has been the vehicle which has assisted so many successful statesmen to reach their objectives. For five years Lincoln pursued his self conducted course of study before he felt he was qualified to apply for a permit to practice law.

The experience of Abraham Lincoln returning from the war at twenty-three years of age with no position waiting for him, and poorly prepared to enter any profession that demanded a specific course of training should serve as a source of inspiration for the young men of today. He did not hesitate to use up five more years of his life in preparation before he felt he was qualified to start his life's task which eventually culminated in saving the union.



# Today Is Anniversary of Captain A First Dixon Visit in Black Hawk W

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Abraham Lincoln, whose sesquicentennial is being celebrated this year, made several trips to Dixon during his Illinois years. Today is the anniversary of his arrival at Dixon's Ferry for the first time in 1832. The following story traces his travels during the Black Hawk War, during which Dixon was a main base of operations.

By ROGER THOMPSON  
Telegraph City Editor

Abraham Lincoln, commander-in-chief of the vast Union armies in one of the bloodiest civil conflicts in history, saw his only military service during a two-and-a-half month period in the spring and summer of 1832.

One hundred and twenty-seven years ago today, a tall, raw-boned, 23-year-old Captain Lincoln led his company of mounted volunteers into the tiny frontier community at Dixon's Ferry, which was to be the supply point and gathering place for the regular army and the state militia in their campaign against Black Hawk and his band of Indians.

For Lincoln it was to be a campaign of long marches, but little action.

The trouble had started when Black Hawk led a band of more than 350 warriors plus many women and children from the Indian lands in Iowa to the Rock River Valley, which had been their home before the wave of white settlers rolled across the fertile prairie.

Black Hawk led his group of Sauks and Foxes across the Mississippi River at Rock Island on April 6, 1832, and soon the settlers were in a panic. Gov. John Reynolds issued a call for volunteer troops to assemble at Beardstown April 22 to put down the Indian threat.

On April 21 a group of Sangamon County boys met to form a company and elected Lincoln captain. Along with other men from central Illinois, they went into camp at Beardstown the next day, and during the week drew supplies for the march north. A week later they were marching toward Yellow Banks (Oquawka). After delays there while waiting for more supplies, they began the march to Rock Island, where they arrived and were sworn into Federal service on May 9.

## Village Burned

Camping there only one night, the militia began following Black Hawk's trail up Rock River. On May 11, they burned the Indian village at what is now Prophetstown, and began a forced march to

Dixon's Ferry, a point which Black Hawk had passed on April 28.

Lincoln's company in an army of 1,500 militia arrived at Dixon's Ferry at 10 a.m. May 12, and camped to await the arrival of more troops.

The next day Lincoln probably watched as Major Isaiah Stillman led his battalion of men out of camp to find and kill Indians.

And early in the morning of May 15 Lincoln was one of many aroused by the cries of stragglers rushing into camp telling of the terrible slaughter of the militiamen.

## Slaughtered by Itchy Finger

Stillman had made camp the night before near the present village of Stillman Valley. Black Hawk sent three braves, bearing a flag of truce, to talk with the whites, but a trigger-happy volunteer shot one of the Indians in cold blood, touching off a running battle with Black Hawk and 50 warriors who had been waiting nearby. In a battle at nightfall 12 whites were killed as the green volunteers, who had looked on the campaign as fun, panicked and ran. They found that a man could be killed during this campaign.

When the stragglers ran into camp at Fort Dixon, the army quickly began preparations for a march to the battlefield, and at 7 a.m. they started. That evening they arrived on the battlefield to find the scalped and mutilated bodies of the 12 victims.

The army buried the dead next morning, and began the return to Dixon's Ferry. Today a tall monument in Stillman Valley marks the graves of the victims.

The next 10 days were spent in two marches in pursuit of Indians, the second ending at Ottawa's Fort Johnson. Many of the volunteers were disgruntled and anxious to get home for spring planting. Since their 30-day enlistments had expired, the mustering out began.

## Abe Re-ups

But Lincoln decided to re-enlist, and on May 29 he was mustered into service by a young regular army officer, Lt. Robert Anderson. In 1861 these two names would be associated again with Lincoln as President and Anderson as the commander of Fort Sumter where the first shots of the Civil War were fired.

Lincoln, now a private in Capt. Elijah Iles' company, left Ottawa June 6 for Dixon's Ferry. The group was to report to Col. Zachary Taylor, commanding regular army forces. Also on the regular army staff was Lt. Jefferson Davis.

Col. Taylor ordered Lincoln's company on a scouting trip to Galena. After their return the company went to Fort Wilbourn, opposite Peru on the Illinois River, where the men were mustered out by Lt. Anderson. Lincoln again re-enlisted for 30 days as a private in Capt. Jacob M. Early's company.

## Lincoln Back to Dixon

Lincoln arrived back in Dixon's Ferry, where on June 25 his company was ordered to make a night march to Kellogg's Grove, about 38 miles northwest of the ferry, where a band of volunteers had been attacked.

This march provided Lincoln with one of his most vivid impressions of the war. Five whites had been killed in the fight, and Lincoln, in recalling his arrival on the scene, years later said:

"The red light of the morning sun was streaming upon them as they lay heads towards us on the ground. And every man had a round, red spot on top of his head, about as big as a dollar where the redskins had taken his scalp. It was frightful, but it was grotesque, and the red sunlight seemed to paint everything all over."

## Upstream March

June 28 the main body of troops,



Lincoln's company with it, left Dixon's ferry to march upstream in search of Black Hawk, who now was in southern Wisconsin.

After two weeks of fruitless hunting around Lake Koshkonong and the White Water River, Lincoln's company was dismissed on July 10, and he thus missed the bloody massacre of Black Hawk's band at the Battle of Bad Ax on the Mississippi a month later.

The night Lincoln received his honorable discharge, his horse, and the mount of a friend, were stolen. The two men hitched rides with friends on their return journey to Peoria, where they bought a canoe in which to ride down the Illinois River.

July 17 the men arrived in Havana, where they sold the canoe, and started on foot to New Salem. Lincoln's brief military career was over.

In later years, Lincoln often made light of his military experiences in the Black Hawk War, but in such writings as his autobiographical sketches he shows considerable pride in his service, and particularly his election as captain. The election was, he wrote in 1859,

"a success which gave me more pleasure than any I have had since."

#### Proud Soldier

Still later, his own law partner, William H. Herndon, would write, "However much in later years he may have pretended to ridicule the disasters of the Black Hawk War, I believe he was rather proud of it after all."

Lincoln writers generally agree that Lincoln's brief experience in the war contributed much to his education. The values of discipline, morale and leadership were among the most valuable lessons.

Today a large statue by Leonard Crunelle, depicting Lincoln as a captain in the war, stands in Dixon near the site of old Fort Dixon. The statue, a state memorial, shows Lincoln wearing an officer's sword.

A more interesting sword was the wooden one he was forced to carry as punishment after his men, in their early days of service, stole the officers' liquor and as a result were unfit to march the next day. The captain was punished, although one of his men later said, "He was entirely blameless in the matter."



**CAPTAIN LINCOLN**—The statue by Leonard Crunelle depicting Lincoln as a captain in the Black Hawk War stands in Dixon at the intersection of Lincoln Statue Drive and North Hennepin Avenue. In recent days workmen have been installing floodlamps which will light the statue at night.



I do hereby certify that William Hohimer (a private) in the company which I had the honor to command: the fourth regiment of the Brigade of mounted volunteers - I commanded by Brigadier General Samuel Whitside on an expedition directed against the Sac & Fox Indians in the Spring of 1832 - received a wound <sup>in the body</sup> while in said service, which at the time and for some days afterwards was considered mortal -

A. Lincoln -

Given to and subscribed before me a Justice of the peace this 30<sup>th</sup> day of April 1833 -

(S) Thomas H. Hohimer of the P.M.

AP

This photocopy of a newly discovered document written by Abraham Lincoln describes how Sangamon County militiaman William Hohimer accidentally shot himself and nearly died while serving with Lincoln's outfit during the conflict with Sac and Fox Indians in upstate Illinois and Wisconsin.

## New Lincoln papers found

**Document details injuries of man in Black Hawk War**

SPRINGFIELD (AP) — The fact that only one man in Abraham Lincoln's militia command was wounded during the conflict with Sac and Fox Indians might make most folks say, "So what?"

What's interesting to historians is the discovery of the former president's written description of how William Hohimer accidentally shot himself.

The discovery was triggered by a Hohimer descendant who spotted Lincoln's signature on an old military document she was viewing at the National Archives in Washington. She mentioned the sighting to Kim Bauer, a historical research specialist with the Illinois State Historical Library, who asked a National Archives historian to retrieve the file.

Lincoln's statement details how Hohimer's musket went off while he was setting up camp. He wrote that the shot entered one side of Hohimer's body and went out the other, leaving a wound that was "for some days afterward considered mortal."

At the time, Lincoln was captain of a 67-man militia unit during the Black Hawk War. The report enabled Hohimer to get a government disability pension of \$8 a month and a 40-acre tract of bounty land for his war service.

With his curiosity piqued by the discovery, Bauer asked the National Archives to search further:

**Archivists found five more documents Lincoln wrote in support of bounty land for his men. Some of the papers were basic forms Lincoln filled out and signed, while others were reports entirely written out.**

Archivists found five more documents Lincoln wrote in support of bounty land for his men. Some of the papers were basic forms Lincoln filled out and signed, while others were reports entirely written out.

Bauer said the latest find suggests that scholars should work harder to sift through and study old records that in many cases have been undisturbed for several years.

Until now, he said, it's clear that "nobody ever looked in the muster roll of the men who served with Lincoln" in the Black Hawk War.



[www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chi-researchers-uncover-new-lincoln-documents-20111107,0,7431584.story](http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chi-researchers-uncover-new-lincoln-documents-20111107,0,7431584.story)

# chicagotribune.com

## Researchers uncover new Lincoln documents

Associated Press

4:48 AM CST, November 7, 2011

→ SPRINGFIELD — Long before he was president, Abraham Lincoln served as a captain during the Black Hawk War. Now researchers have discovered documents signed by the young soldier.

The documents are discharge papers that Lincoln signed for members of the Fourth Illinois Mounted Volunteers. The papers let men claim land bounties for their service in the 1832 conflict with American Indians.

Lincoln later said he was more gratified at being elected an officer by his fellow soldiers than by any other position he ever won.

The papers were found at the National Archives by an assistant editor for the Papers of Abraham Lincoln, a project of the Lincoln Presidential Library.

The editor, David Gerleman, also found an 1855 affidavit from Lincoln confirming the service of another soldier.



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HOW LINCOLN WAS ELECTED CAPTAIN IN  
THE BLACK HAWK WAR.

(*Ida M. Tarbell, in McClure's Magazine for January.*)

PREPARATIONS were quickly made, and by April 22, 1832, the men were at Beardstown. Here each company elected its own officers, and Lincoln became a candidate for the captaincy of the company from Sangamon to which he belonged.

His friend Greene used to give something beside ambition as his reason for desiring the captaincy. One of the "odd jobs" which Lincoln had taken since coming into Illinois was working in a saw-mill for a man named Kirkpatrick. In hiring Lincoln, Kirkpatrick had promised to buy him a cant-hook to move heavy logs. Lincoln had replied, "If you will give me two dollars I will move the logs with a common hand-spike." This the proprietor had promised, but when pay day came he refused to keep his word. When the Sangamon company of volunteers was formed, Kirkpatrick aspired to the captaincy; and Lincoln, knowing it, said to Greene: "Bill, I believe I can now pay Kirkpatrick for that two dollars he owes me on the cant-hook. I'll run against him for captain," and he became a candidate. The vote was taken in a field by announcing that at the command "march" the men should assemble around the man they wanted for captain. When the order was given, three-fourths of the men gathered around Lincoln. In Lincoln's curious third-person autobiography he says he was elected "to his own surprise;" and adds, "He says he has not since had any success in life which gave him so much satisfaction."



Q. Relate Abraham Lincoln's connection with the Black Hawk war.  
S. E.

A. In Brooks' true story of Abraham Lincoln it says that in 1832, the Indians were on the war path, and a call was sent out by the governor of Illinois for volunteers to fight them. Ma-ka-tal-me-she-kia-kiah was chief of the Sacs who made fierce war on the border white men. In Sagamore county, two men were nominated for captain of the volunteers. By a large majority, Lincoln, one of the two, was elected. His regiment never had an encounter with the Indians. Lincoln had a difficult time with his men whom, at last, he brought into some kind of discipline. When the time of their service expired, and the men demanded to return home, Lincoln would not return with them. "We came to fight this thing out," he said, "I'm not going home until it is over." So, when his company was disbanded and went home, Captain Lincoln re-enlisted as a private and served to the end of the war.



# OLD INDIAN FORT AT BLOOMINGTON

Edifice 200 Years of Age Is Interesting Historians.

## SITE ELEVATED ONE

Believed to Have Been Great Capital of Kickapoos.

It Was Stronghold in Many Tribal Wars and Was Used Against the Americans.

Special Correspondence of The Inter Ocean.  
BLOOMINGTON, Ill., Nov. 6.—The general interest that is being displayed in archeological subjects of late has revived the subject of the old Indian fort which exists in this county. The McLean County Historical society, which has won great credit for the efforts of its members to compile in imperishable form the history of this vicinity, has turned its attention toward this old fort, and many interesting facts are being brought out.

It has been learned that the fort was the center of an Indian village of the Kickapoo tribe. The Indians found in this county by the first white settlers knew but little about the fort and village. But this is not strange, considering their nomadic character. These Indians, however, asserted that the fort had been used by their ancestors in the war of 1812.

The tract of land upon which the fort was built was bought from the United States government Sept. 28, 1835, by Absalom Funk, and is yet owned by the famous Funk family. The early maps of Illinois generally agree in

locating at this point a "Kickapoo town" or Indian village, and there is good evidence that at this point was located the great capital of the Indians of central Illinois for a long period of time.

The village is located about fifteen miles east of Bloomington, is on high ground, commanding an extensive view of the prairie, all points of the compass, and there is no more elevated section in central Illinois. It would have been difficult to find a more picturesque location before the prairies were settled, and when the distant groves and timber fringes along the streams were less dense than at present.

The site commanded a view of the country in every direction for fifteen miles, and was wisely chosen as a point of observation.

The conclusions of those who have devoted years of study and research to the old fort and village are very interesting. They think that while the Kickapoos and their affiliated allies occupied the country between the Illinois and the Wabash rivers, the village and the old fort marked the great central capital, and that probably about 1752, not many years after the French had fortified Fort Chartres, the Indians attempted to fortify the place as an outpost defense for their large village.

It is further thought that near the old fort, or before any fort existed, the Indians met and were conquered by the French in 1732.

It is further believed that the fort was occasionally used by the Indians in war with the various tribes and that it was occupied as a defense against the Americans in 1791, in 1811, and 1812, and that after the battle of Tippecanoe the Indians intended to make another stand here, but that at a late date, when the troops appeared, the force of the redskins was so small that no defense was attempted, and they fled north and west. A half-breed living when the first white settlers came to McLean county stated that his ancestors called the site of the village "Etnataek."

The Indians occupying the territory between the Illinois and the Wabash rivers constituted what was known as the prairie portion of the Kickapoo Indians. The natural buffalo hunting ground is thought to have been along the line north and south, known as "Grand Prairie," but a few miles distant.

Old Town, as the vicinity of the fort is now called, was apparently the center of a great hunting district, and the tribes from the south may have frequently invaded it in search of game. This naturally would result in clashes and perhaps numerous battles were fought. Vast quantities of arrow heads, spear points, and other relics of the Indians are found in the vicinity, and excavations might develop many archeological treasures.



**Lincoln's Army Service.**

Did Abraham Lincoln ever  
serve in the army? L. G.

At the outbreak of the Black Hawk  
War in the early part of 1832, Abra-  
ham Lincoln volunteered for the de-  
fense of the frontier settlements and  
was chosen captain of his company.  
The war, however, was soon brought  
to a close before he had an oppor-  
tunity of meeting the enemy.



**LINCOLN IN THE BLACK  
HAWK WAR.**

Paris, Ill., May 31.—Sunday's issue of your paper carried, on its editorial page, an article from the Register-Gazette of Rockford, Ill., headed "A Lincoln Story" and dealing with Lincoln's services in the Black Hawk war. This article said "he was first a private and, reënlisting, was given a company."

Lincoln had command of a company in the 4th regiment in the first army and when this disbanded all but three hundred returned home. These three hundred reënlisted and were formed into a regiment under the command of Col. Jacob Fry. Former Capt. Lincoln and Gen. Whiteside became high privates in the rear ranks, and, as far as I know, so served to the end of the war, and, according to Historian John Moses, showed themselves as willing to obey as they had been to command.

With the first army of volunteers was a small detachment of regulars under the command of Col. Zachary Taylor. A lieutenant of one of his companies was Jefferson Davis. Just before an expected attack Col. Taylor made an address before all the troops. Part of it, according to Moses, was as follows: "Soldiers, the orders you have just heard must be promptly obeyed. The safety of all depends upon the obedience of all. You are citizen soldiers; some of you may fill high offices, or even be President some day, but not if you refuse to do your duty. Forward, march!"

Gen. Taylor, Abraham Lincoln and Jefferson Davis had good reason to remember that speech in after years.

FLOYD M. DAVIS.



## LINCOLN SERVED IN 1832 INDIAN WAR

JEFF DAVIS AND ZACHARY TAYLOR ALSO BORE ARMS.

After Chief Black Hawk Was Beaten,  
He Ridiculed Gen. Lewis Cass'  
Military Claims.

M'GREGOR, Iowa, Feb. 14.—It may be news to many of the boys at the front that Abraham Lincoln once was a private in the ranks and marched with knapsack and gun in answer to his country's call for defenders. It was in 1832, when Black Hawk, chief of the Sac and Fox Indians, made war on the forts and settlers in northern Illinois and Wisconsin. Lincoln, 24 years old, enlisted in a volunteer company of mounted rangers. In the same war Zachary Taylor, afterward President, was commandant at Fort Crawford, Prairie du Chien, Wis., opposite McGregor, and under him as lieutenant was Jefferson Davis.

The war was over and Chief Black Hawk brought captive to Fort Crawford before Lincoln had seen any actual fighting, yet on the march and in camp he had made himself so popular with his comrades that soon after his return to New Salem, Ill., his townsmen nominated him for the Legislature.

### Lincoln Aids Taylor.

In later years, when Zachary Taylor was a candidate for President and extravagant claims for military honor were set up by the Democratic candidate, Gen. Lewis Cass, Lincoln, then in Congress and an ardent supporter of General Taylor, ridiculed Cass' pretensions to soldier fame in a speech before the House and alluded to his own military career in the Black Hawk War in this way:

"By the way, Mr. Speaker, did you know I am a military hero? Yes, sir, in the days of the Black Hawk War I fought, bled and came away. Speaking of General Cass' career reminds me of my own. I was not at Stillman's defeat, but I was about as near it as Cass was to Hull's surrender, and, like him, I saw the place very soon afterward. It is quite certain I did not break my sword, for I had none to break, but I bent my musket by accident. If General Cass went in advance of me in picking whortleberries, I guess I surpassed him in charging on the wild onions. If he saw any live, fighting Indians, it was more than I did; but I had a good many bloody struggles with the mosquitoes, and, altho I never fainted from loss of blood, I can truly say I was very hungry."



# The Black Hawk War.

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That event, which transferred the upper Mississippi from the red to the white man, may be said to transcend all others in importance to the Mississippi Valley. Besides its importance in that particular, it was vastly important by reason of the great names to be found in the muster rolls: Capt. Abraham Lincoln, Lieut. Jefferson Davis, Lieut. Col. Zachary Taylor, Gen. Winfield Scott, Col. John A. McClernand, Lieut. Albert Sidney Johnston, Lieut. Joseph E. Johnston, Lieut. Edward D. Baker, Col. J. J. Hardin, and U. S. Senators, Cabinet Ministers, Governors, etc., without number! The most dramatic and interesting bit of Mississippi Valley history.

Appendices devoted especially to the services of Captain Lincoln and Lieut. Davis are added, each of which contains many rare illustrations.

Three hundred rare and interesting views and portraits are presented for the first time in the book, of that issue now published. Documents heretofore unknown are included at length. In fact a large octavo volume is now offered to the public which should be in every library.

A copy of the book will be prepaid to any address for examination and approval.

Price \$5.50 net.

FRANK E. STEVENS.



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# Illinois State Historical Society

Forty-fourth Annual Meeting

*Dixon*

Friday, October 15, and Saturday, October 16

In cooperation with

Lee County Historical Society

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*The Public is Cordially Invited to Attend All Sessions*

# *Program*

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15—8:15 P. M.  
AUDITORIUM, LOVELAND COMMUNITY HOUSE

Presiding:  
JEWELL F. STEVENS  
*President, Illinois State Historical Society*

AN ENGLISHMAN'S VIEW OF THE MIDDLE WEST . . . .

GRAHAM HUTTON, Director, British Information Services, Chicago  
(At the conclusion of his address, Mr. Hutton will answer questions from the audience)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16—9:00 A. M.  
MEN'S CLUB ROOM, LOVELAND COMMUNITY HOUSE  
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND DIRECTORS' MEETING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16—11:00 A. M.  
THE LINCOLN STATUE, DIXON  
LINCOLN AND THE BLACK HAWK WAR . . . . .  
GEORGE C. DIXON, DIXON

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16—11:15 A. M.  
TOUR OF LOWELL PARK  
(Buses for those without cars will leave the site of the Lincoln Statue at 11 A.M. sharp)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16—12:30 A. M.  
OUTDOOR LUNCHEON, LOWELL PARK  
LOWELL PARK AND ITS HISTORY . . . . .  
MRS. BEATRICE H. LANPHIER, DIXON

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16—2:30 P. M.  
VISIT TO HAZELWOOD  
THE STORY OF HAZELWOOD . . . . .  
MRS. CHARLES R. WALGREEN, Dixon  
(Buses returning to Dixon will leave the Lowell Park entrance at 4:15)

# *General Information*

Because of the recent reduction in gasoline allowances, the crowded condition of public conveyances, and food rationing, the Society's executive committee seriously considered cancelling the 1943 annual meeting, in spite of the constitutional requirement that such meeting be held. Many members, however, expressed the conviction that a meeting would offer an opportunity for badly needed relaxation, and were opposed to cancellation. The Office of Defense Transportation offered no objection, but requested that members make every effort to use trains and buses on schedules that are not overcrowded. The meeting has been planned with this request in mind.

## **LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS**

Loveland Community House is located at the corner of Madison and Second Streets, three blocks west of the Court House. Lowell Park, one of the few stands of virgin forest to be found in the Middle West, is three miles north of Dixon. Hazelwood, long famous as the estate of an eccentric Irishman, "Governor" Alexander Charters, who settled there in 1837, is now owned by Mrs. Charles R. Walgreen. The Lincoln Statue is located in Dixon on the north bank of the Rock River between the Peoria and Galena Avenue bridges.

Transportation, by bus or private automobile, to Lowell Park, Hazelwood, and return will be provided for those who come to the meeting without cars of their own. It is planned, however, to walk from a point in Lowell Park to the Barton Shelter, where luncheon will be served, and thence to Hazelwood, which adjoins the park. Only thus can the real beauty of the park, with the Rock River in the distance, be appreciated.

The distance to be covered on foot is approximately two miles. Members should dress accordingly.

## **TRAVEL INFORMATION**

For twenty-five passengers or more, the Chicago & North Western Railroad will provide a special car on Train No. 25, which leaves Chicago at 5:05 P.M., Friday, October 15, and arrives at Dixon at 7:27 P.M. Returning, a special car will be provided on Train No. 16, which leaves Dixon on Saturday, October 16, at 5:36 P.M. and arrives at Chicago at 7:55 P.M. On Sunday morning, October 17, the Streamliner City of Denver, will stop at Dixon at 8:53. Accommodations, however, cannot be guaranteed, and any passengers taken on may have to stand. The City of Denver is due at Chicago at 10:40 A.M.

Dixon is served by the Black Hawk, Chicago & North Western, and Peoria-Rockford bus lines. Please consult your local bus agent for schedules. Buses to Dixon on Friday, and from Dixon on Sunday morning, are not likely to be overcrowded.

## **HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS**

The Nachusa Hotel: Single, with bath, \$2.50; double, with bath, \$3.50. Rooms without bath are also available. Reservations should be made in advance.

White Pines State Park, Route 1, Mt. Morris, (12 miles north of Dixon) has heated tourist cabins and a restaurant. Reservations must be made in advance.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

For further information, write to Paul M. Angle, Secretary, Illinois State Historical Society, Springfield.

# *Historic Dixon*

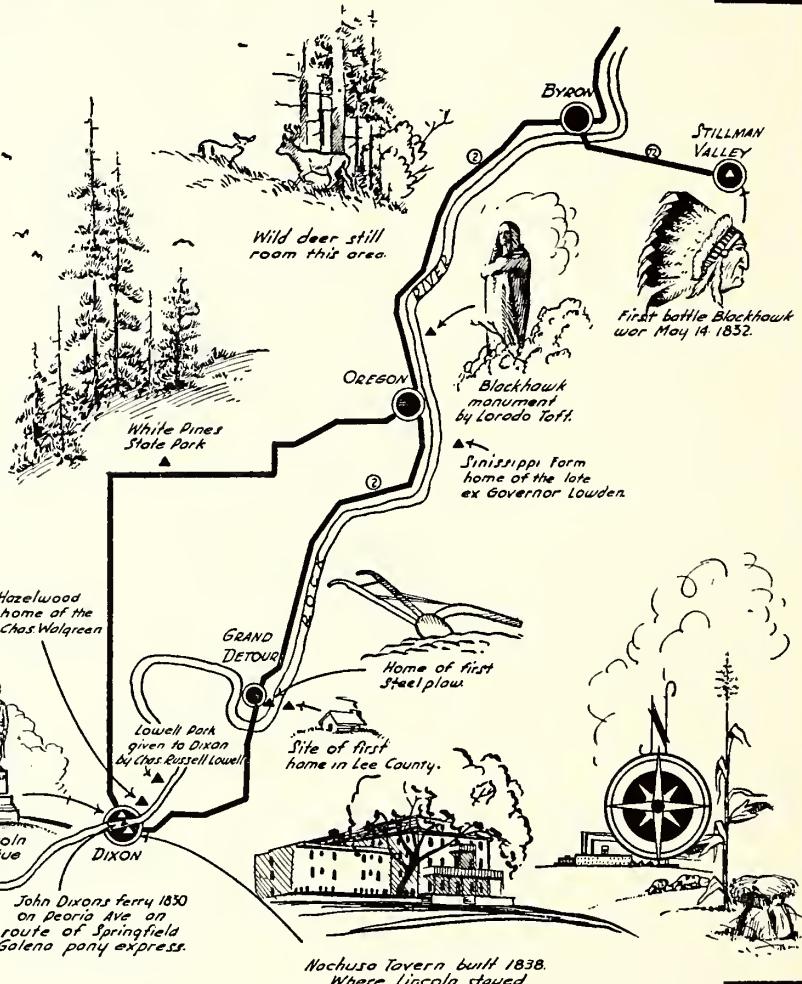
Long before white settlement, the Indians and occasional travelers crossed the Rock River at the site of present-day Dixon. In 1828 travelers became so numerous that Joseph Ogee, a half-breed, established a ferry there; two years later John Dixon, whose name the city was to take, acquired the ferry and built a cabin that served as a home, tavern, general store, and post office.

During the Black Hawk War, in 1832, Dixon's Ferry, as it was then called, held the attention of the entire state. There Fort Dixon was erected, and General Henry Atkinson established his headquarters for the campaign. There, at the head of a company of volunteers from Sangamon County, came Abraham Lincoln. Many other men later to be famous were stationed at Dixon's Ferry for intervals—Jefferson Davis, president of

the Confederacy; Zachary Taylor, Mexican War general and president of the United States; Albert Sidney Johnston, killed at Shiloh; Robert Anderson, in command at Fort Sumter when the Civil War broke out; and several future governors of Illinois.

John Dixon entered the land on which Dixon stands as soon as it was offered for sale by the government, and filed the first town plat in 1835. In 1839 Lee County was set off from Ogle and Dixon became the county seat. Since then the city has grown slowly but steadily. Today it is a thriving community of more than 12,000 people, notable, industrially, for the production of milk products, wire screen, shoes, and portland cement. The state hospital for epileptics is located there; nearby is the Green River Ordnance plant, a great munitions manufactory.

# HISTORICAL SITES IN DIXON AND VICINITY



FRED L. SPURGEON

# Sterling, Illinois

Sterling was named in honor of Colonel Sterling of Pennsylvania, a personal friend of Hugh Wallace, the latter being one of the founders of the city in 1839. Hezekiah Brink was the first settler, in 1834, naming the town Harrisburg. A second village, Chatham, was started in 1835 only half a mile away, and they afterward united.

Situated on Rock River, with large Indian mounds on both sides of town, the city is in the heart of the Black Hawk war territory. The Lincoln Highway from McCue's corners two miles west of town, to Dixon, 14 miles east, is very close to if not the actual route over which Abraham Lincoln marched his company of volunteers up the Rock River valley in the Blackhawk war in 1832, the only section of the Lincoln Highway so distinguished by Lincoln himself. Lincoln also spoke here during his campaign of 1857.

Rock Falls was named after the rapids, or "falls" in Rock River between the two towns, and was founded by A. P. Smith in 1867. The two towns form one community, connected by two highway bridges and the C. B. & Q. railroad bridge, also two dams across the river.

Sterling-Rock Falls have an almost perfect balance between industrial and agriculture. The Borden Milk Company uses the product of 3,500 cows, and the Sterling Canning Company the product of 2,400 acres of corn and peas. The Northwestern Barb Wire Company employs 500 men. The International



## HISTORIC DEKALB COUNTY FAMED

### IN LINCOLN AND INDIAN LORE

By HERBERT WELLS FAY, Custodian Lincoln Tomb.

One of the incidents of the Black Hawk War was the Indian massacre in northern La Salle County, near the DeKalb County line. Shabbona Chief with his tribe lived at Shabbona Grove, DeKalb County. He had witnessed the death of a relative, Tecumseh, near Detroit and he made up his mind that it was futile to battle with the whites, and they could get more favors by peaceful methods.

Black Hawk sought in vain to get his aid, but he rode his Indian pony over the country and urged the settlers to go to the forts. Most of the people obeyed, but a few paid no attention to his warning and Black Hawk's band surprised them, killing about sixteen of the number and carrying away Rachel Hall and Sylvia Hall two young girls and held them for ransom. They were carried over the Shabbona-Kapos trail through DeKalb County, and crossed into Wisconsin near Janesville. After touring a dozen camps in that state, General Gratzcot, a representative of the Land Department of the Government, paid \$2,000 ransom for the release of the girls. They were not harmed in any way. At Galena they visited for a few days after their thrilling trip, then by boat went to St. Louis, where Governor Clark (later of the Lewis and Clark expedition), gave them a reception and they became the heroines of the middle west. They then returned to La Salle County where later the elder sister married Wm. Monson and the other Rev. Horn.

The Monson children later lived at DeKalb and they would bring in their friends to see the account of the affair and pictures of their relatives published at the time, 1832. Wm. Monson's patent to his farm signed years afterward by General Taylor after he became president, and thousands of pictures and items relative to the incident in which their family took such a heroic part.

Students of Lincoln history will recall that the New Salem rail-splitter was at this time hastening to the scene of trouble. The military headquarters was at Dixon on Rock River, where they recently erected a Lincoln bronze. During the campaign the soldiers went over the Shabbona-Kapos trail and camped over night near a spring on the Kishwaukee river at Coltonville, later the site of the first court house of DeKalb County. Governor Ford and Governor Reynolds both visited Coltonville, now a place of a few farm houses, but rich in historic memories.

Here General Zac Taylor, his son-in-law, Jefferson Davis and Abraham Lincoln camped over night. The first two were Westpointers and undoubtedly only recognized Captain Lincoln as "just another Illinois volunteer," but fate had other plans.

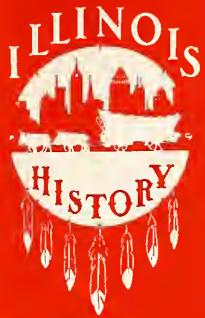
One eminent historian tried to convince us that Jefferson Davis was not at DeKalb, because the records at the war department show that he was away on a furlough. He was, but when he heard of the massacre, like all ambitious soldiers, rushed to the front. This was proven afterwards by his own lips. And was sought for John Dixon, the ferryman. This was opposed in Washington because the records showed that he was not enlisted, but Jefferson Davis came to his aid and said that he remembered "Father" Dixon, and testified to the aid he had given to the cause. Stern's history of the Black Hawk War gives the best account of the campaign. We often traversed the Shabbona-Kapos trail and found Indian arrows by the thousands, saw evidence of the Red Men along the whole route.

#### SHABBONA AND KAPAS

Shabbona Chief had his camp at Shabonna Grove and his friend, Chief Kapas had a similar camp at Coltonville twenty miles north. Kapas was killed by his own tribe on account of jealousy. He was buried in camp in a seated position, and his grave was an object of historic interest to the pioneers of DeKalb County. Later it was lost, but when the field was ploughed for the first time in half a century it was found and we published a record plat and had photos made that will locate it for all time.

The trail crosses Lincoln Highway near the spot where President Roosevelt spoke in Normal campus, and some day DeKalb County historians will properly mark the spot traversed by two of our greatest Presidents.





# Stories from Illinois History

NUMBER 3

## BLACK HAWK, WARRIOR OF THE SAUK

By PHYLLIS CONNOLLY

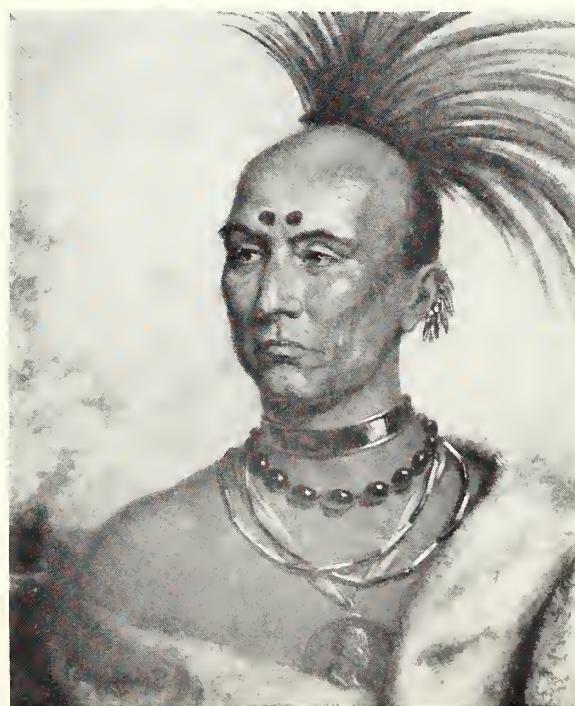
The sky melted gradually from gray to gold and pink. As the brilliant sun climbed higher and higher in the East, the bright hues gave way to a soft blue. Gay songbirds darted from tree to tree, their flashing wings and sweet notes as colorful as the sky above them. The air was warm with a hint of spring. "May the future of my people be as bright as this day," thought the old Indian brave who had watched the sunrise from the bank of the mighty Mississippi. For today he must lead his followers eastward, toward the sun, to a land that had once been theirs but where now they were unwelcome intruders. The old warrior watched the women and children of his band readying their canoes for the crossing, while the braves saw to their horses. And as he watched, Black Hawk remembered.

He recalled his youthful days fighting in the Sauk wars against the Osage and Cherokee. Later he had fought for the British in the War of 1812. Although never a chief of the Sauk, he was respected by the young men of his tribe for his courage and skill in battle and for his more than sixty winters. He had looked forward to spending his last days in his beloved village of Saukenuk on the Rock River. Instead, he and his people had been forced to leave their fields, their crops, their homes, and the graves of their ancestors to make way for the white men. The Sauk and Fox had moved west across the Mississippi to Iowa, but all that had welcomed them was starvation. Black Hawk's heart was heavy with bitterness that spring morning of April 5, 1832. He was determined that his people should have justice and that they should not suffer any more. The canoes and horses were ready. Black Hawk gave the command, and his band of more than one thousand men, women, and children moved eastward, across the Mississippi, to the Rock River and forbidden ground.

Thirty years before, Black Hawk would not have been a trespasser on the Illinois side of the Mississippi, for the confederated Sauk and

Fox tribes had claimed that vast area of land stretching north and west of the Illinois River to the Wisconsin and the Mississippi. The rich land near the mighty Father of Waters provided the Sauk and Fox with bountiful crops of beans, corn, squash, and pumpkins. Then, in 1804, five of their chiefs and braves had gone to St. Louis to try to arrange for the release of one of their tribesmen from prison. The territorial governor, William Henry Harrison (who was known for his rather shady dealings with the Indians), however, got them to sign a treaty giving up the Sauk and Fox lands in Illinois and Wisconsin to the United States government. Fifteen million acres now passed to the federal government in return for \$1,000 per year. Under the terms of the treaty, the Indians were permitted to live and to hunt in the ceded area until the United States actually sold it to settlers.

In dealing with the Indians, the federal gov-



Black Hawk, a painting by Charles Bird King

ernment often failed to understand the organization of the tribes and the very limited power of the chiefs. At the head of the tribe was a council, made up of hereditary chiefs (those who received their positions because their fathers had been chiefs) and principal warriors. The council did not take action until reasonably certain that members of the tribe would accept it, for the chiefs did not have any kind of police power to enforce their decisions. Although the five members of the Sauk and Fox tribes signed a treaty giving up land, they had no authority from the tribal council to do so. Actually the treaty was recognized by the tribe as a whole, but many individual members, including Black Hawk, were bitter over losing their lands—especially at such a cheap price! They felt that they had been cheated by the government and that the land cession was not valid.

For some years, however, little trouble occurred because the Sauk and Fox used only a small part of their vast holdings near their principal village of Saukenuk. By 1829, however, white squatters had moved into the Indian village, and when they actually paid money to the government for their land claims, they ordered the Indians to get out.

The Sauk and Fox were divided in their



Keokuk, a Sauk War Chief

opinions as to the course they should follow. Keokuk, the principal war chief and recognized leader of the Sauk (and a skillful talker as well), persuaded the majority of the tribe to move to their lands west of the Mississippi, as the government wished. Keokuk believed that the Indians had to give way before the westward advance of the whites, and though he was very bitter about this fact, he followed a policy of co-operating with the government. Black Hawk disagreed with Keokuk.

The government did not understand the feelings of the Indians for their homes and their anger at having been paid so little for their lands. Black Hawk himself said later that if the United States had given the Indians more money to buy supplies, he and his band would have moved West. This was an entirely proper method of settling grievances among the Sauk. An Indian could back down from a stand without losing face if his enemies offered him suitable presents. Instead, the government, which was following a policy of moving all Indians west of the Mississippi, told the Sauk that they must leave at once.

The majority of the tribe, under Keokuk, crossed the river, but Black Hawk, with his small band of followers, stood his ground. In 1831 he surprised the settlers by ordering them out of the area near Saukenuk. In panic they turned to Governor John Reynolds, who, fearing an attack, announced that Illinois had been invaded by Indians and called out the militia. Shortly before troops arrived at the Sauk village in June, 1831, Black Hawk and his band crossed the Mississippi to Iowa, promising never to return to Illinois without the permission of the United States government. Soon afterward, Black Hawk asked to be allowed to go to Washington and present his case to the Great White Father. He would, he said, agree to follow the President's decision. Here, if only the government had realized it, was an opportunity to satisfy Black Hawk, but once again officials in Washington failed to understand the Indians. Black Hawk was not allowed to talk to the President.

The old warrior was now a very angry man. In the meantime, one of Black Hawk's followers, a young chief named Neapope, had talked with an Indian known as the Prophet, who was half-Sauk and half-Winnebago. These two schemers convinced Black Hawk (who did not need much persuasion) that he should go to the Prophet's village (near the site of present-day Prophetstown, Illinois) in the spring and plant corn. Black Hawk was also told that the Ottawa, Chippewa, and Potawatomi Indians and the British would support him in case of



The Winnebago Prophet

war. Black Hawk was delighted, thinking that his troubles would soon be over. As he told Neapope, "I now began to hope . . . that my people would be once more happy. If I could accomplish this, I would be satisfied. I am now growing old, and could spend the remnant of my time anywhere. But I wish first to see my people happy. I can then leave them cheerfully. This has always been my constant aim; and I now begin to hope that our sky will soon be clear."

To reach the Prophet's village, however, Black Hawk had to cross the Mississippi, which would break the promise he had made to the government. But Black Hawk believed that if he made no warlike move and that if he did not return to his old village, the whites would leave him alone. On April 5, 1832, he ordered his band to cross the Mississippi.

Now it was Black Hawk's turn not to understand the feelings of the settlers, who had grown up hearing tales of Indian treachery and cruelty. That Black Hawk was peaceful made no difference to the pioneers. They were badly frightened and demanded that Governor Reynolds call out the troops to protect them against the "blood-thirsty savages." The governor, anxious to please the voters who had elected him, called for volunteer soldiers. The situation was so tense that only a small spark was necessary to light a fire that would sweep the entire northern frontier of Illinois.

When Black Hawk had crossed the Mississ-

sippi, he was greeted by the Prophet. The old Sauk was short, not more than 5 feet, 4 or 5 inches in height, and thin, with a sharp nose and hollow cheeks, but his back was straight as an arrow, his head was held high, and his eyes flashed with pride and defiance. The Prophet, on the other hand, was more than 6 feet tall and rather stout, with broad, coarse features. The Sauk shaved their heads and wore a bushy scalp-lock of animal hair, but in later months the Prophet was to let his hair grow long in an attempt to please the whites.

Although the smile of welcome on the Prophet's face was warm, his words brought an icy chill to Black Hawk's heart. The Prophet had been sent, he said, by the white agent at Rock Island to tell Black Hawk and his band to return to Iowa. Wabokiesiek (as the Indians called the Prophet), of course, thought Black Hawk should continue with his original plan. "The prophet," said Black Hawk, "then addressed my braves and warriors. He told them to 'follow us, and act like braves, and we had nothing to fear, but much to gain. That the American war chief might come, but would not, nor dare not, interfere with us so long as we acted peaceably! . . . We must wait until we ascend Rock river and receive our reinforcements, and we will then be able to withstand any army!'" But the Prophet spoke false words. An order from General Henry Atkinson, commander of the federal troops at Fort Armstrong, was sent to Black Hawk: he was to recross the Mississippi at once. The stub-

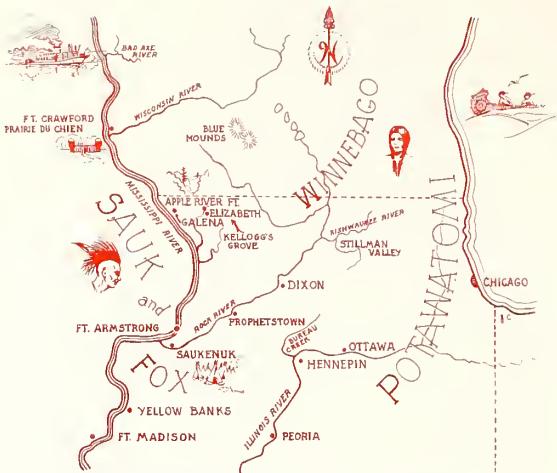


Governor John Reynolds

born old warrior refused. But a further week of powwows with the Winnebago and the Potawatomi convinced Black Hawk that no help would come from them or from the British. "I sent for my chiefs, and told them that we had been deceived! That all the fair promises that had been held out to us, through Neapope, were false!" With a heavy heart, Black Hawk decided to return to Iowa. His dreams of living once again in Illinois were as dead as the ashes of yesterday's campfire.

In the meantime, Governor Reynolds had set out with about 1,800 militiamen to chase Black Hawk out of Illinois. When this force reached Dixon, they learned that Black Hawk was feasting with the Potawatomi near the Kishwaukee River. Three hundred of the volunteers, under Major Isaiah Stillman, were sent to find Black Hawk's camp. When Black Hawk heard that the soldiers were nearby, he sent some of his braves under a flag of truce to arrange a council, hoping to work out an agreement with the soldiers for recrossing the Mississippi. Five other braves followed the flag-bearers to see what the soldiers would do. The volunteers, however, were eager for a fight and, misunderstanding the Indians' errand, killed two of them. Black Hawk was fighting mad and with thirty or forty warriors drove back the frightened militia. Thus, on May 14, at the Battle of Stillman's Run, the Black Hawk War began.

After forcing Stillman to flee, Black Hawk and his band—slowed down by the presence of hundreds of women, children, and old men—struck out for the North. The plan was to reach safety by crossing to the west bank of the Mississippi in Wisconsin. On June 24, the Indians attacked Apple River Fort near Galena but could not take it. The following day, Black Hawk set an ambush for the troops of Major John Dement, but most of the soldiers escaped to Kellogg's Grove. Black Hawk then moved into Wisconsin, but on July 21, soldiers under General James D. Henry and Colonel Henry Dodge caught up with him. A fierce battle took place on the shore of the Wisconsin River above Blue Mounds, but under cover of darkness the Indians escaped and headed for the Mississippi. When they reached the mouth of the Bad Axe River, they saw an armed steamboat coming toward them. Wishing to stop the killing, Black Hawk hoisted a white flag and tried to surrender, but the steamboat captain either did not understand



The Black Hawk War, 1832

or did not want to understand the surrender flag and fired on the Sauk. The next day, August 2, the Indians tried to cross the Mississippi, but the army caught up with them and killed a great many.

Before this last battle, Black Hawk deserted his band, fearing capture and imprisonment. Shortly afterward he appeared in a Winnebago village at Prairie La Crosse, Wisconsin. Whether he was captured or gave himself up voluntarily is not known. Toward the end of August, some of the Winnebago warriors took Black Hawk to Prairie du Chien, where the old warrior surrendered. He, along with the Prophet, Neapope, and a few of the principal leaders of the band were sent to Jefferson Barracks near St. Louis. In the spring of 1833, Black Hawk and five others were moved to Washington, D.C., and confined for a short time at Fortress Monroe, Virginia. He was then taken on a tour of the major eastern cities (probably to impress him with the white man's power) and returned to his people. In 1838, at the age of seventy-one, Black Hawk died on the Sauk reservation in Iowa.

The Black Hawk War was short, lasting less than three months. The whites lost 72 men, while between 450 and 600 Indians were killed. Up until the Battle of Stillman's Run, fighting could have been prevented by more patience and understanding from the government, the settlers, and the Indians. But in 1832, these qualities did not exist along the frontier. The determination of the whites to move West and of the Indians to defend their ancient homes made war almost certain.



BLACK HAWK.

Black Hawk was seventy years of age when this portrait was painted by  
James Byrd King.

Taken from the McKenney & Hall Collection of North American Indians.





From a photograph in the war collection of Robert A. Coster.

MAJOR ROBERT ANDERSON.

Born in Kentucky in 1805. In 1825 graduated at West Point. Anderson was on duty at the St. Louis Arsenal when the Black Hawk war broke out. He asked permission to join General Atkinson, who commanded the expedition against the Indians; was placed on his staff as Assistant Inspector General, and was with him until the end of the war. Anderson twice mustered Lincoln out of the service and in again. When General Scott was sent to take Atkinson's place, Anderson was ordered to report to the former for duty, and was sent by him to take charge of the Indians captured at Bad Axe. It was Anderson who conducted Black Hawk to Jefferson Barracks. His adjutant in this task was Lieutenant Jefferson Davis. From 1835-37 Anderson was an instructor at West Point. He served in the Florida War in 1837-38, and was wounded at Molino del Rey in the Mexican War. In 1857 he was appointed Major of the First Artillery. On November 20, 1860, Anderson assumed command of the troops in Charleston Harbor. On April 14 he surrendered Fort Sumter, marching out with the honors of war. He was made brigadier-general by Lincoln for his service. On account of failing health he was relieved from duty in October, 1861. In 1865 he was brevetted major-general. He died in France in 1871.





Tomahawk.

Indian Pipe.

Powder-horn.

From a photograph made for this Magazine.

Flintlock Rifle.

Indian Flute.

Indian Knife.

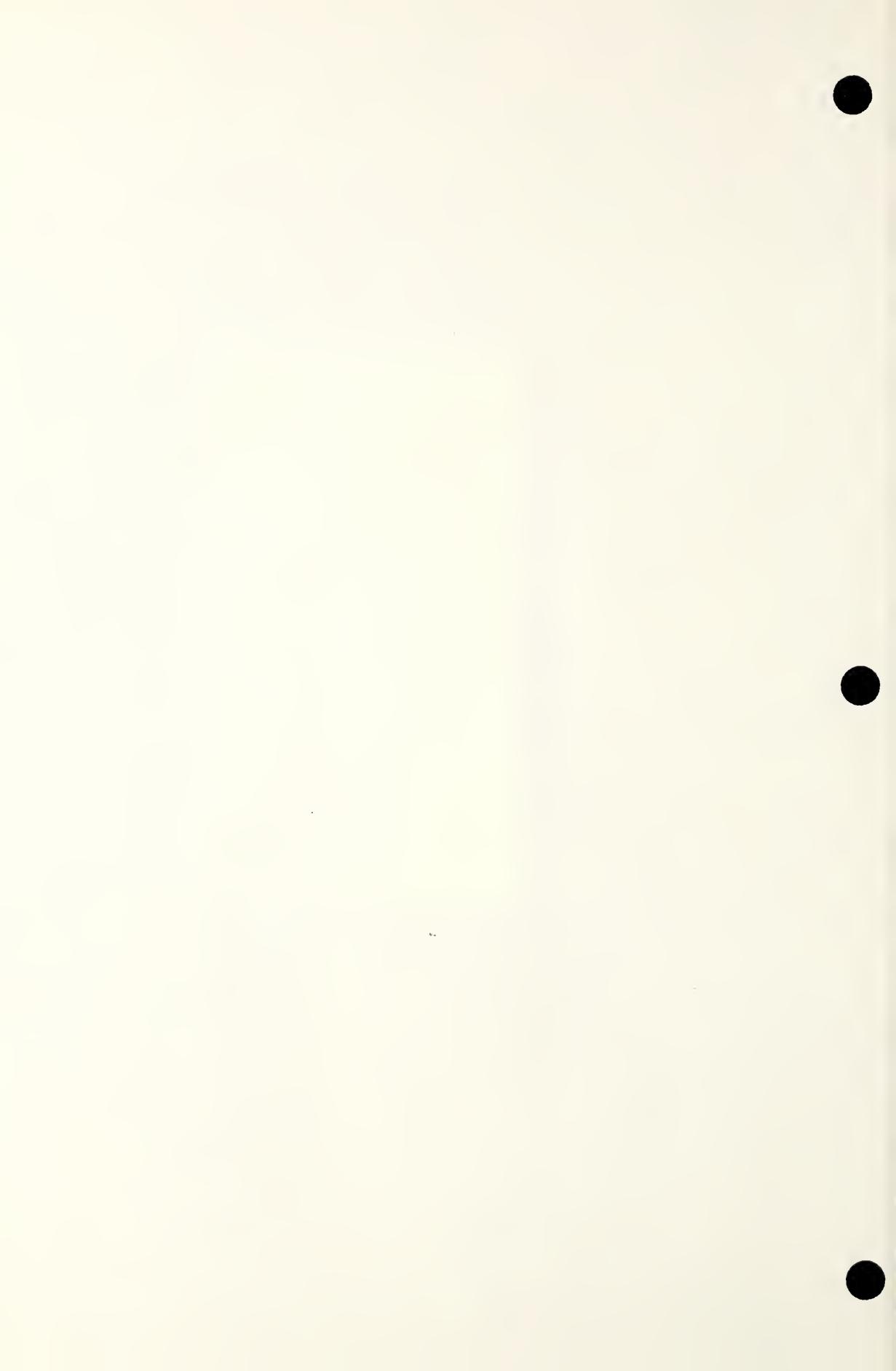
BLACK HAWK WAR RELICS.

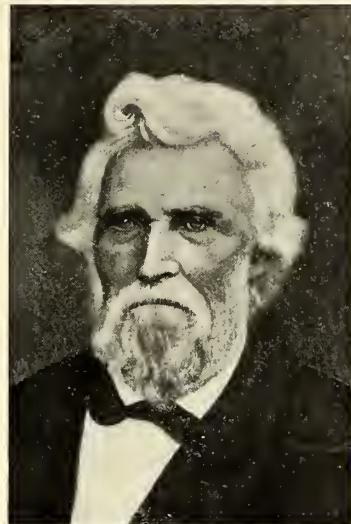




ZACHARY TAYLOR.

At the breaking out of the Black Hawk war, Zachary Taylor, afterwards general in the Mexican War, and finally President of the United States, was colonel of the First Infantry. He joined Atkinson at the beginning of the war, and was in active service until the end of the campaign.

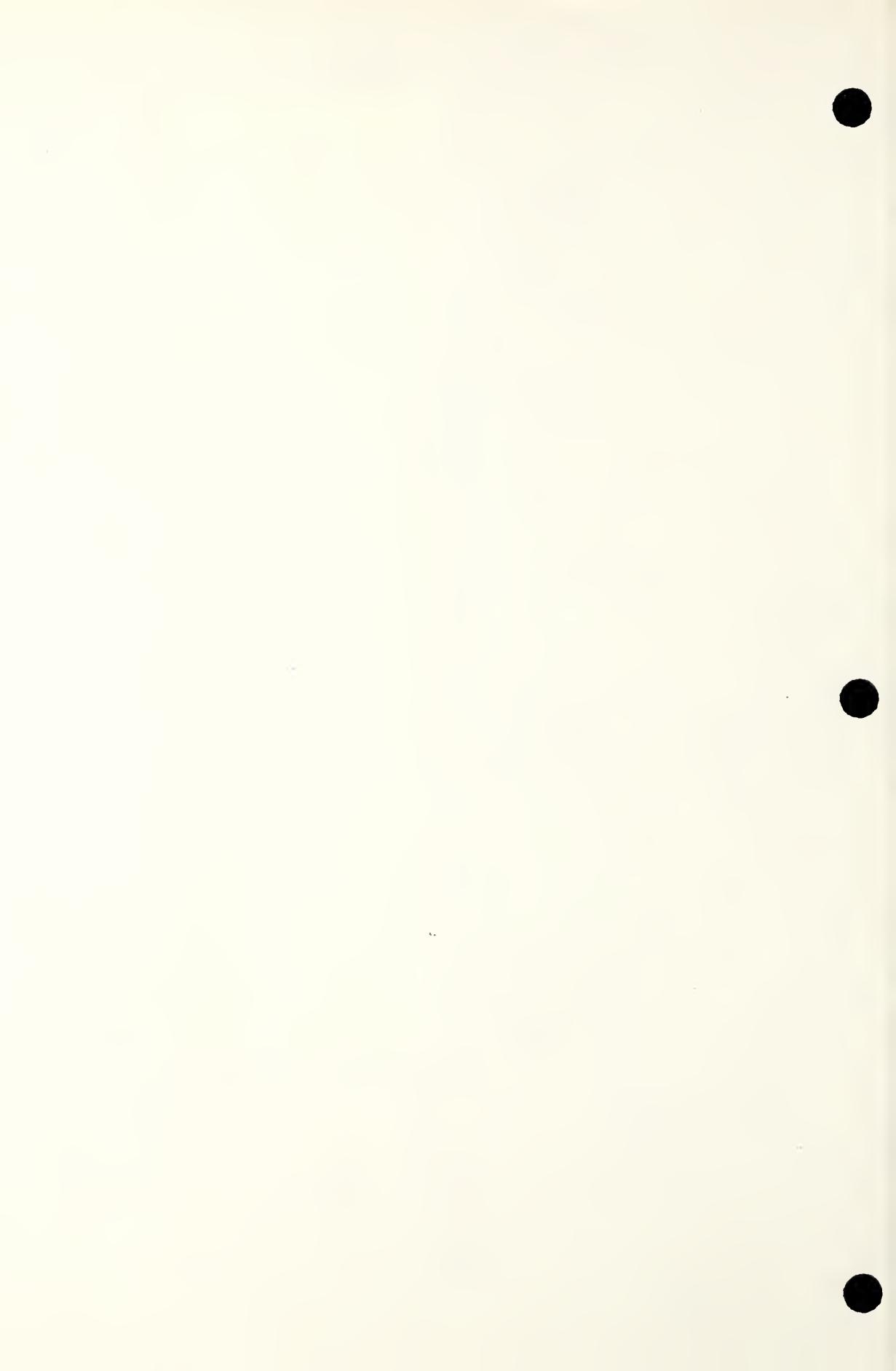




From a photograph made for this Magazine.

ELIJAH ILES, CAPTAIN OF COMPANY IN  
WHICH LINCOLN SERVED AS PRIVATE  
IN BLACK HAWK WAR.

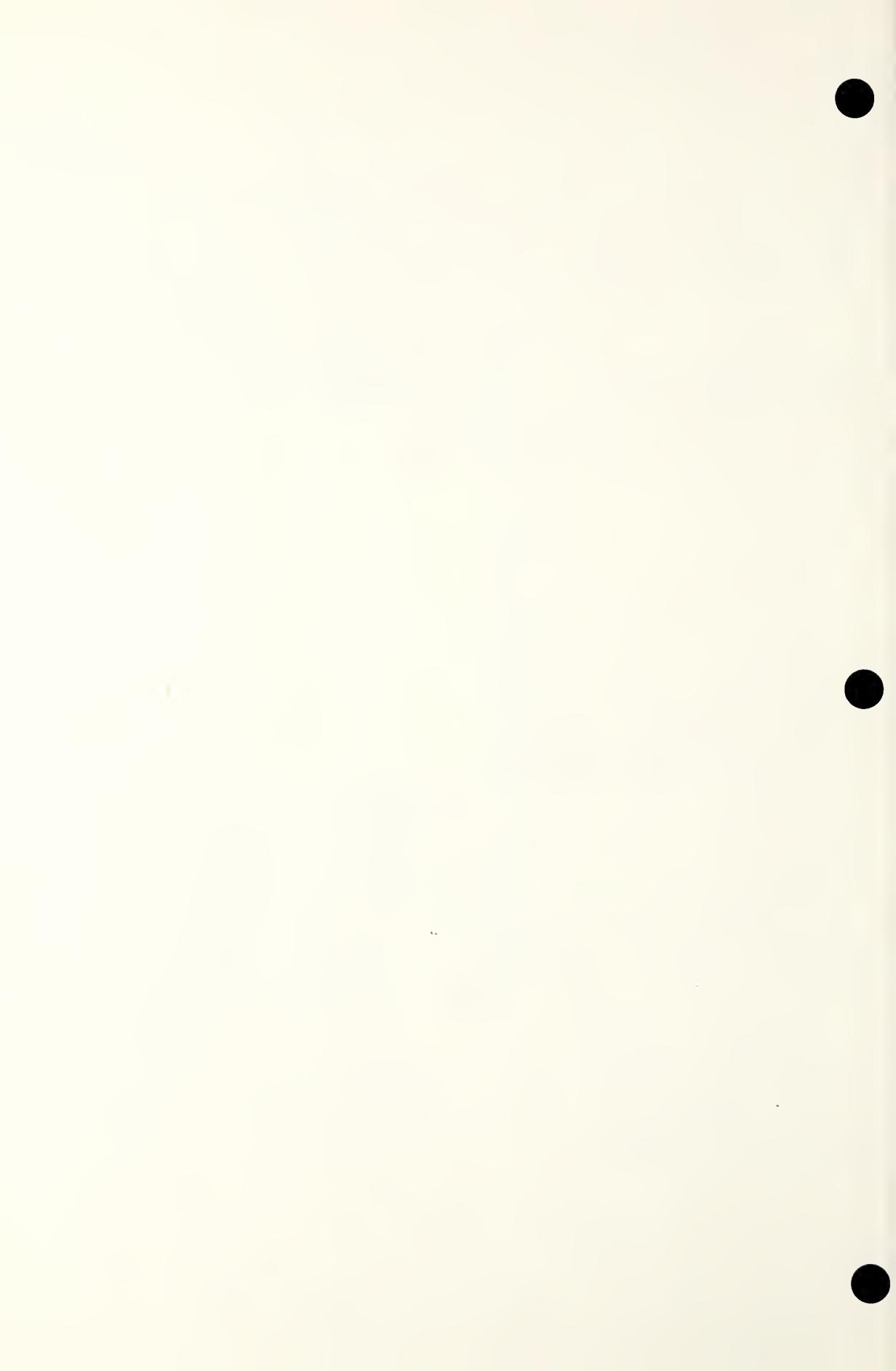
—After a painting by the late Mrs. Obed Lewis, niece of Major Iles, and owned by Mr. Obed Lewis, Springfield, Illinois. Elijah Iles was born in Kentucky, March 28, 1796, and when young went to Missouri. There he heard marvellous stories about the Sangamon Valley, and he resolved to go thither. Springfield had just been staked out in the wilderness, and he reached the place in time to erect the first building—a rude hut in which he kept a store. This was in 1821. “In the early days in Illinois,” he wrote in 1883, “it was hard to find good material for law-makers. I was elected a State Senator in 1826, and again for a second term. The Senate then comprised thirteen members, and the House twenty-five.” In 1827 he was elected major in the command of Colonel T. McNeal, intending to fight the Winnebagoes, but no fighting occurred. In the Black Hawk War of 1832, after his term as a private in Captain Dawson’s company had expired, he was elected captain of a new company of independent rangers. In this company Lincoln re-enlisted as a private. Major Iles lived at Springfield all his life. He died September 4, 1883.





From a photograph made for this Magazine.

BLACK HAWK.





From a photograph made for this Magazine

WHITE CLOUD, THE PROPHET.

After a painting in the collection of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and here reproduced through the courtesy of the secretary, Mr. Reuben G. Thwaites. The chief of an Indian village on the Rock River, White Cloud was half Winnebago, half Sac. He was false and crafty, and it was largely his counsels which induced Black Hawk to recross the Mississippi in 1832. He was captured with Black Hawk, was a prisoner at both Jefferson Barracks and Fortress Monroe, and made the tour of the Atlantic cities with his friends. The above portrait was made at Fortress Monroe by R. M. Sully. Catlin also painted White Cloud at Jefferson Barracks in 1832. He describes him as about forty years old at that time, "nearly six feet high, stout and athletic." He said he let his hair grow out to please the whites. Catlin's picture shows him with a very heavy head of hair. The prophet, after his return from the East, remained among his people until his death in 1840 or 1841.





From a photograph made for this Magazine.

WHIRLING THUNDER.

After a painting by R. M. Sully in the collection of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and here reproduced through the courtesy of the secretary, Mr. Reuben G. Thwaites. Black Hawk had two sons ; the elder was the Whirling Thunder, the younger the Roaring Thunder; both were in the war, and both were taken prisoners with their father, and were with him at Jefferson Barracks and at Fortress Monroe and on the trip through the Atlantic cities. At Jefferson Barracks Catlin painted them, and the pictures are in the National Museum. While at Fortress Monroe the above picture of Whirling Thunder was painted. A pretty anecdote is told of the Whirling Thunder. While on their tour through the East the Indians were invited to various gatherings and much done for their entertainment. On one of these occasions a young lady sang a ballad. Whirling Thunder listened intently, and when she ended he plucked an eagle's feather from his head-dress, and giving it to a white friend, said : "Take that to your mocking-bird squaw." Black Hawk's sons remained with him until his death in 1838, and then removed with the Sacs and Foxes to Kansas.



UNIQUE PICTURE OF SHABBONA, INDIAN CHIEF.



PICTURES of old Chief Shabbona, who fought with the Illinois settlers against Black Hawk are numerous enough, but they lack the authenticity of the one here reproduced from an old ambrotype, in possession of D. C. Haight of the Chicago Postoffice department. Perhaps no other camera likeness of the old chief is in existence today.

"There were just two taken," said Mr Haight, "one for me and one for the old chief himself, and the way in which it was accomplished was not easy.

"It was in 1856 and I was down at Princeton, Ill., visiting friends. While I was there old Shabbona and his squaw came to town on one of their annual visits to white friends. They used to come nearly every year to see the Bryants, Thompsons, and Wiswalls that section, and I knew the old man. I

met him on the street there one day and suggested that the chief go with me to a photographer up-stairs and have his picture taken. He refused and I had to spend a good deal of argument to get him to listen to me. Finally he gave in, but the expression on the old man's face shows that his superstitious dislike of the camera was not wholly overcome.

"When the old man got his picture, set in a black case, with gilt margins, he was as pleased as a child. I've no doubt that somewhere among the old man's descendants his copy of the picture is still preserved. My own copy has gone through a good many adventures; but I've got it still, and a look at it brings back to mind the grim old man, just as I saw him on that memorable day."

